

LIBERIA.

A republic founded by black men, reared by black men, maintained by black men, and which holds out to our hope the brightest prospects.—HENRY CLAY.

BULLETIN No. 33.

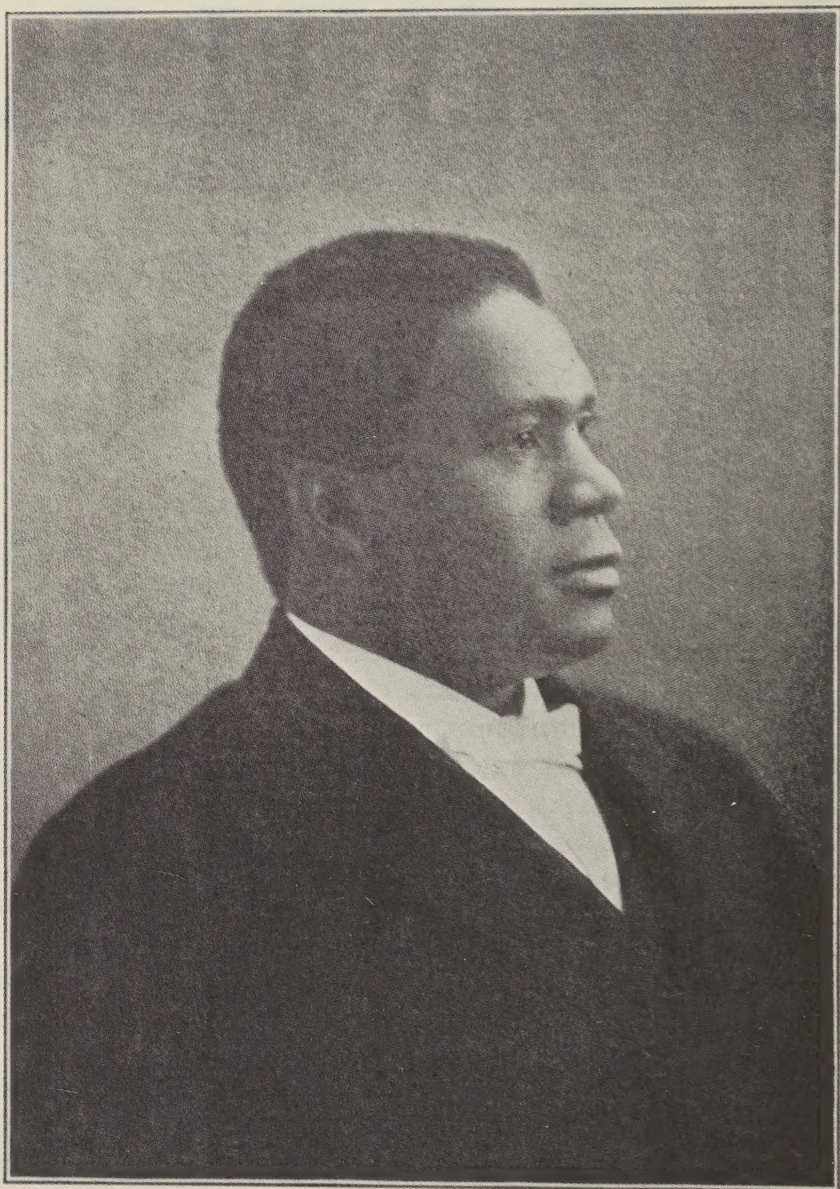
NOVEMBER, 1908.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.
COLONIZATION BUILDING, 450 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.



REV. DR. ALEXANDER PRIESTLY CAMPHOR.

was for ten years connected with Liberia Mission Work, during which time he was President of the College of West Africa, Monrovia, and has been appointed President of the Central Alabama College, Mason City, Alabama.

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BULLETIN No. 33.

NOVEMBER, 1908.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR BARCLAY'S MESSAGE.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *December 12, 1907.*

Fellow-citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

The people of Liberia, at the general election held in May last, have sent a fresh contingent of representative citizens to the capital of the State to look after its interests and affairs.

Before us are faces seen for many years in this chamber. Others have entered for the first time upon the discharge of the duties of this very important branch of public service.

Some who were present with us on this occasion a year ago have gone into the Great Beyond. Others have returned to private life or have been transferred to posts in other branches of the government.

It is hoped that all have come here animated by a common public spirit, that you bring with you high ideals of public spirit and usefulness, and that you are animated by a desire to advance to the utmost the interest of our little State, for the people of our Republic regard the present session of its legislature with both interest and concern; and these feelings are shared by a great body of sympathetic friends of our State scattered over the world. It is impossible that any natural or political body can always remain in the same condition. The State must grow or decay.

The regard in which it is held must increase or decrease. While West Africa remained outside the circle of political life of the world we could afford to jog along quietly and conservatively and to follow lines laid down more than fifty years ago by the founders of Liberia and their advisers. But now that phase has passed, and we are confronted with new problems growing out of the new conditions around us.

It is for the chief executive officer to place before you ideas

that grow out of the conditions, and it is for the legislature to bring to a consideration of the problems presented patriotism, patience, temperate and careful consideration and intelligence.

A student of the history of Liberia can, I fancy, detect one great failing—the habit of adjourning from year to year disagreeable questions or measures which, although admittedly useful, were not thoroughly understood, and upon which members were often too proud to ask information; or perhaps there was a question of personal pique—some old score to pay off, and a senseless opposition offered a means of revenge. Such petty spites have brought down many a national fabric. It is well at the beginning of the session to resolve that such despicable acts shall have no part in the discharge of our public duties.

During your recess the Republic has unfortunately lost the services of Hon. H. W. Travis, Secretary of State at the time of his demise. Mr. Travis served the State continuously for more than a quarter of a century, occupying successively the important posts of Auditor General, Secretary of the Treasury, Judge of the Superior Court of Montserrado County, and Secretary of State, the duties of which offices he discharged satisfactorily. He had large experience both of men and of local affairs, was a leader of the liberal and progressive type, was very popular with the people generally, and was loved and trusted by the circle of men who have had the direction of public affairs for a generation.

The Auditor General, Mr. W. V. Gibson, an official with considerable experience in both Departments of State and the Treasury, has also died since your adjournment.

Several bills presented in January on the first day of your session did not meet approval, and hence have not been printed. One was the bank bill, which contains new matter of which the members of the government had no previous cognizance. Another error was that the duration of the corporation was made uncertain. So that the matter stands over for action at the present session.

I have pointed out in more than one executive message that the president and members of the legislature are trustees of the public domain and of the public interest. They cannot, therefore, use their positions to obtain concessions.

This was the defect in another bill, and consequently it was not approved. A third bill, House No. 38, Joint Resolution, permitting certain articles to be admitted free of duty, infringed our contract with Liberian Development Company, and was therefore illegal.

Under the resolution authorizing the executive government to conclude arrangements for a cable between Liberia and Europe, an agreement has been concluded between Felton & Guileau, a German firm, the assign of the East African Company. A copy of the agreement will be laid before you by the Secretary of State. I am unable to state at what time it is proposed to commence operations.

It was impossible for various reasons to convene during the present year the military council established by the act approved January 26, 1907.

The third section of the action relating to divorces passed by your last session has embraced the judiciary. There seems to be no good reason for the provision "that no action of divorce shall be tried at next term of the court after that to which the defendant has been summoned to appear." There may be good, sound, just reason for delay—as, for example, procuring evidence for defendant and necessary legal advice. I think the section should be amended, and trust it will have your attention.

Attention was called at the beginning of your last session to the great need there was for a new and properly drawn naturalization law. The difficulties of government in the connection were fully explained. It is regretted that the legislature adjourned without action. Your immediate attention to this measure is requested.

The law relating to the office, powers, and duties of justices of the peace has been codified by Counsellor T. McCant Stewart, and printed, and is ready for circulation. It should be realized. Your action is requested.

The compilation and codification of the statutes of the Republic of Liberia is in progress, and it is hoped that this will be completed by the middle of next year.

The Attorney General will call attention to the law respecting actions of replevin. It does seem proper that this action should

be excluded from these within the jurisdiction of justices of the peace.

Your attention will be also called to the law with regard to the action of injunction. A decision of the Supreme Court exists to the effect that a defendant not summoned fifteen days before the regular session of the court before which the writ is returnable is deemed not to have been legally summoned. While this decision may be sound under existing laws, yet the effect is to destroy to some extent the efficacy of this important remedial writ. This writ, you will remember, is directed to a party commanding him to abstain from doing some act which it is alleged he is about to do.

The opinions seem to be entertained that in the space of the fifteen days during which the writ cannot be made legally available persons injured, or about to be injured by some action of their neighbors, can obtain no legal protection, and it is to correct this that legislation is desired.

The government also suggests that Courts of Admiralty have summary jurisdiction in all cases in which a violation of the customs regulations is charged, the object being to make prosecution and defense more speedy and less tedious and expensive than under present conditions.

The Christian influences which dominate the ideas of the legislature are certainly manifested in the law on the subject of divorce. The general opinion seems to be that it ought to be allowed only on the ground of adultery; but many cases arise in which there is reasonable cause for separation, if not divorce. Among the suggestions which the legal adviser of the Republic will make is one by which you will be asked to pass an act authorizing the Court of Quarter Session sitting in equity to grant bills of separation upon the joint application of the husband and wife, or upon the petition of either in cases of cruelty, disease, insanity, or of desertion. During such separation marital and conjugal rights would be held in abeyance, but might be restored by petition to the same court.

The amendments to the constitution proposed by your honorable body at your last session were duly submitted to the people at the biennial election held in May of the present year, and appear to have been adopted. If that turns out to be the case,

then reform of a most useful, beneficial, and progressive character will have been effected.

I am of opinion that the legislature should at the present session initiate a reconstruction of the judicial department. Both the international and local interests of the State make a reform desirable. The judges must belong to the professional class—that is, must be taken from among men who have had legal training. They must conform to the rules of conduct and of deportment which characterize judicial officers in the civilized world.

I suggest that the present bench of the Supreme Court be augmented by two Associate Justices, making four in all, and that these should preside in rotation over the courts now known as Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas in each county and district, as assigned by the Chief Justice; that the Chief Justice receive a salary of \$1,500 per year, and each Associate Justice \$1,200, with actual traveling expenses. Future holders of the judicial appointments must be counsellors of the Supreme Court or must be able to exhibit satisfactory evidence of legal proficiency. This reform need cost no great additional expense. The salaries of the judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts are collectively about \$5,500. The new arrangement would cost about \$800 more per year. The Supreme Court would be formed by the Chief Justice and the Associate Justices collectively, it being understood that no judge could sit on a case which he had heard in the court below. An advantageous provision would be that on the completion of his sixtieth year any judge would have the option of retiring on half pay, but in case of sickness or other inability of an active judge might be assigned to a circuit for a term or two, on payment of his expenses.

The Attorney General ought to be retained exclusively by the government. A salary of \$1,200 is not excessive if this desirable end is to be attained.

It is hoped that the bill allowing parties to actions to give evidence in their own favor if they so desire, subject, of course, to cross examination, will meet your approval at the present session.

The Postal Department continues to show progress, as will appear by the report which the Postmaster General will submit.

As in all business institutions, so there is in the transactions of the Postal Department an element of risk and consequent loss. I regret to inform you that the department suffered last year a loss of about \$10,000 through the default of the vice-consul of Liberia at New York, Mr. Charles T. Geyer. To this official the Postal Department, since the inception of the money order business, has been accustomed to remit its American bills and financial papers for collection. Instead of placing the amount collected in some bank in the name of the Republic, it appears that he placed the money in his own name. He was suddenly forced to suspend business. A draft of \$5,000 drawn by the post office was dishonored, and on receipt of the news, the Postmaster General being absent on leave, the government telegraphed to the Liberian consul general in the United States to endeavor to secure these funds. He did his best, but the money could not be recovered. The government secured from the delinquent consul an interest in some lands in the State of North Carolina, but these are not salable at present. As his money belongs to foreign administrations, the legislature is now called upon to meet the claim by special appropriation. The Post Office Department has also had losses in other directions, particulars of which will be duly put before you by the department officers, as well as the steps which have been taken in the premises.

The Republic continues to maintain friendly relations with all foreign powers. The Secretary of State will give you such information with regard to our exterior relations as you may request.

The Franco-Liberian agreement of 1892 having been found unworkable, negotiations continued over a period of six years have finally resulted in the signature of a fresh arrangement which will be placed before the senate for consideration and ratification.

The Manna river question has also had the attention of the government. The arrangement concluded will be placed before you as soon as the official document is received. The matters referred to above have been pending for many years, and the conclusion of agreement was accelerated by a short visit of the President to Great Britain and France in the months of August

and September. The Secretary of State, Hon. F. E. R. Johnson, had preceded me, and I was accompanied by Mr. McCant Stewart in the capacity of Deputy Attorney General. The Secretary of the Treasury was commissioned as Secretary of State *ad interim*, and discharged the duties of President during my absence. A full report of this visit has been drawn up, and can be perused by members of the legislature so desiring.

The ideas of the governments of the two countries visited, as I caught them, may be thus summarized:

The British Foreign Office expressed itself as seeing with regret the gradual curtailment of the territory of the Republic. It attributed that curtailment to ineffective administration in matters of police and finance. It expressed the hope that Liberia will see the necessity of speedily putting on foot the necessary reforms. The British Foreign Office, owing to complaints that have been made to it recently, is impressed that the judicial administration of our State requires overhauling. The government of the Republic, in its opinion, should pay immediate attention to this branch of administration; otherwise it would only provide for itself further embarrassments.

The French Foreign Office, for its part, assured the Liberian officials that France had no designs on Liberia. In the present arrangement it had endeavored to arrange that Liberia have the territory intended by the agreement of 1892. The idea was thrown out that the establishment and preservation of neighborly and friendly relations and intercourse with French officials on the frontiers and in West Africa would be of advantage to Liberia.

It would be wise to pay attention to the expression above set forth. The shoals on which our ship of state may run aground in its international relations should be evident to all of us. We should therefore make serious and unremitting efforts to avoid the shallows.

The French government has intimated through its representative here that it believes that arms of precision are smuggled through the ports of Liberia into its territory. You will remember that Liberia is a party to the Convention of Brussels, which forbids the sale of arms to the uncivilized natives of Africa. The government of Liberia has replied that they con-

sider the fear expressed by the French authorities erroneous, and gave its reasons in detail.

For the last two or three years the laws and customs' regulations with respect to arms of precision have been strictly enforced. The acts on the subject, however, need verbal revision. It would be, perhaps, well to enact, in addition to present expression, that said arms can only be imported by the military authority of the government of Liberia. A suspicion exists that the English steamship lines land arms of precision at non-ports of entry as part of their illicit trade, but the government has not been able to verify this rumor.

During my visit to England I met Sir Alfred Jones, managing director of the Elder-Dempster Lines, who took occasion privately and publicly to dissociate himself and directorate from any connection with or approval of the irregular traffic in which these steamers have hitherto taken part.

The government, through the Interior Department, has continued its efforts to put an end to tribal wars, to arrest turbulent chiefs and generally to pacify such districts as were in a disturbed condition. A considerable staff of district and assistant commissioners, some twenty in number, have been maintained for these purposes.

In the annual communication of 1906 attention was called to the frontiers, and it was pointed out that it would be necessary to occupy posts thereon with an efficient police under proper supervision. As you will learn from the report of the Secretary of the Interior, efforts have been put forth in that direction, but they have not been as effective as desired.

Our neighbors complain that we do not efficiently police our frontiers; that that neglect is a source of trouble and expense to them. On the other hand, tribes in the frontier districts have complained to the government of Liberia of wrongs received from local officials and protégés of the French and English colonies. Complaints have only led to recriminations. Each state is disposed to give credence solely to its local representative. Under the circumstances the absence of proper officials of an efficient police has been a detriment to the interests of our own state.

The establishment of a well-drilled and efficient police force

has therefore become a necessity, and the government has promised, with your consent, to proceed as speedily as possible to effect its formation. It should be from the first embodied and formed by trained men, who, in this case, will have to be European officers of some experience in this special line. The usefulness and efficiency of the force to the government of Liberia will largely depend upon how it is trained and handled for the first five years. The subordinate commissioned officers will, of course, be civilized Liberians, who will, where possible, be utilized as administrators in the district where the force may be stationed. This force will be run on strictly military lines; it can only be serviceable in that way. The privates will be taken from the aboriginal tribes of the country indifferently. There will be an inexpensive but serviceable uniform. The pay should not exceed an average of \$8.00 per month for privates and non-commissioned officers, out of which cost of food would be deducted. The term of enlistment should be from five to seven years. Neither officers nor men should be allowed participation in political matters, or allowed to exercise the franchise during their term of enlistment. After the initial expenditure has been met, such a force ought to be maintained at a minimum cost of \$60,000 per year.

The force would be employed in garrisoning the frontier posts, in policing districts, in keeping open roads, in enforcing collection of taxes, and in repressing turbulent persons and communities. After a short time the money to maintain the force could be raised out of the country occupied and policed by it.

Upon the termination of service it might be found desirable to form special settlements for the retired rank and file wherein each soldier honorably discharged might have a small grant of land, free of charge.

Continual complaints are made with regard to the injury which certain districts of the Republic are suffering on account of the recruitment of laborers for service in other West African countries.

It is a matter which has been often brought forward and debated among the principal executive officers. The administration conceives that under existing constitutional provisions, it

is beyond its power to forbid a citizen leaving the country, except in cases where his departure is forbidden by judicial process. The course which is now followed in Sierra Leone, and other West African countries, whereby the recruitment of laborers for service abroad is generally forbidden, might be judicially questioned if pursued by your executive.

If the legislature thinks that the executive government should have power to deal with the question, a law might be enacted that in case the prosperity of any district is threatened by an exodus of effective workers, upon the representation of a local authority, or on the President's own initiative, that exodus might be for the time being prevented by executive order. It is possible that if the constitutionality of the law was questioned, some legal principle might be unearthed by the courts applicable to the case and supporting our joint action.

I recommend that the legislature consider whether a great saving of public money would not be effected if the government surveyors were salaried instead of receiving fees as is at present the practice.

I hope that all local authorities will exert themselves to improve the interior roads, as this policy assists materially the trade of the Republic. The Careysburg road is not yet finished. It has cost more than it was anticipated. What has been accomplished, however, is an immense improvement on past conditions. Account respecting it will be laid before you.

During the year a survey was made at the instance of the government for a tramway or light railway between Upper and Lower Buchanan, in the county of Grand Bassa, by Mr. Byrd, an engineer in the service of the development company. He was understood to report adversely to the idea on the ground that it would not pay. The matter will be placed before the legislature—there seems a difference of opinion on the subject.

The Commissioner of Agriculture has, during the past official year, continued to promote the formation of agricultural societies in the several provinces of the Republic. There has been considerable revival of interest in agriculture. Peaceful conditions prevailing, labor has been more abundant. The Montserado Association intends holding within the next two months a small agricultural exhibition. The government has made a

grant in aid. You will, I am sure, be extremely pleased to further all such efforts. They should, however, for the most part be the result of private or co-operative enterprise.

The commissioner intends shortly in compliance with Article 5, Section 15, of the constitution, which declares "The improvement of the native tribes and their advancement in their arts of agriculture and husbandry to be a cherished object of this government," to initiate a series of visits to the natives living near the civilized settlements, so as to get them to plant coffee and other staples in regular manner.

Superintendent F. O. Thorne of Maryland County has also very commendably made some efforts in the same direction.

I do not think that there is anything in the report of the Commissioner of Education to which special attention should be drawn in this communication, further than to say that I hope that the legislature will continue the policy it has consistently pursued for the last ten years of giving every possible encouragement to education and educational institutions. For support to education, Liberia holds the first place among West African administrations. Sierra Leone, with a revenue six times greater than Liberia, spends only one-fifth of the sum devoted by our State to the cause of public instruction. Our educational system still waits in many respects the touch of an adaptive, constructive director, but if a broad, liberal, and aggressive educational policy is persevered in, the result in time will tend to make the Liberians the most intelligent and progressive people in West Africa.

I note with pleasure that the president and executive committee of Liberia College have been careful to spend a fair proportion of the money devoted to the institution by the State on the repairs and up-keep of the buildings, which are in better order now than at any previous time since they were first put up. It is very regrettable that a greater number of youths do not attend the collegiate classes. It is desirable that the tendency to leave school before they are properly equipped for the avocations they intend to follow, or for the post to which they may be appointed, should in some way be counteracted. A strict enforcement of the law compelling attendance of schools during school age would be extremely helpful.

The accounts of receipt of revenue and of expenditure during the year ended September last, have not been fully made up.

The report of the Treasurer will be presented rather later than usual, owing to the fact that Secretary Howard had to discharge the duties of President during my absence, and the Comptroller was also absent on leave. I may state, however, that the receipts from the customs amounted to \$362,175.62; an increase over last year's income from that source of \$86,849.08.

The customs are our principal source of revenue. Under the careful supervision of Mr. W. J. Lamont, the chief inspector, this source of revenue has manifested signs of gratifying expansion. But he is much hampered by want of competent assistants. He has expressed the opinion that if allowed two more trained European assistants, the results would be of great advantage to the treasury. This arrangement would only last until we have obtained from among our people a properly trained and efficient staff. I hope that his suggestion will have your careful and favorable consideration.

When we consider that Sierra Leone, a country not larger or more fertile than our own, had a revenue last year from customs of \$800,000, the most unintelligent can see that there must be room in Liberia for improvement.

The insight which I obtained while in Europe into the conditions, prospects, and methods of the Liberian Development Company, compelled me to insist that the connection between the government of Liberia and itself, in matter of the loan of 1906, be severed. Accordingly, an agreement to that effect between all parties in interest has been drawn up, and will be duly submitted for your approval. A special message will be therewith transmitted.

It is hoped that the idea of creating a small bank will continue to have your approval, and that the act presented at your last session, amended to suit existing conditions, will have your support.

The port of Garaway, Maryland county, was duly opened during the year. River Cess is a place of increasing importance, and it is very desirable that a district commissioner be placed there with a small police guard. The government has made all

arrangements for the erection there of a permanent customs building. Materials are on the ground, and the construction of it will be immediately proceeded with. During the year the site of a small town will be chosen and surveyed and lots granted to intended settlers.

A port of entry of out-station has been established at Kanre-Lahun in Kissie country on the Anglo-Liberian frontier.

A Commissioner of Internal Revenue, in accordance with the act authorizing the same, was appointed in the month of July. The bureau is in the course of organization. This bureau will in time be one of our revenue producing agencies. To understand its importance, and why it was established, you will remember that the treasury up to last year was organized thus:

1. The Secretary's office: All correspondence is addressed to this branch and answers sent out therefrom.

2. Here general supervision over the whole department is exercised.

The Bureau of Accounts: At the head of this bureau is the Comptroller. He is the bookkeeper of the Republic. He countersigns all checks and keeps all vouchers. He particularly examines, passes, and records the accounts of all officers of customs.

3. The Bureau of Audit over which is the Auditor General with five assistants in the different counties and districts of the Republic. To this branch is presented all claims against the government. If the bill or claim is passed, the Auditor records it and endorses upon the claim the account under which it is to be paid.

The Auditor General examines the reports and vouchers of all disbursing officers and makes records thereof.

4. The Bureau of Customs, at the head of which is the chief inspector, who is responsible for the proper collection of the revenue arising from the imports and exports.

5. The Treasurer and Sub-Treasurer of the Republic who receive and disburse the entire public revenue.

There were a great number of collectors of taxes, fines, and licenses of all sorts under no kind of proper supervision. They make some sort of report to the courts of quarter sessions under the provision of an act of the legislature, but their reports were

of an inefficient and unsatisfactory nature. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue is expected to systematize this branch of revenue and to direct and control this class of revenue officers.

I have several times called attention to the necessity of a regular budget. Before the legislature makes the annual appropriation, it should certainly have some idea of what the revenue will likely be, in what directions, and for what public purpose it can be most advantageously spent. It should consult and be in close touch with the President and Treasurer.

The fact that things are done in a business-like way generally will be found to affect favorably the commercial and financial reputation of individuals and communities. Our State must be careful to obtain and preserve a reputation for sound finance. This will be a source of power.

You are asked to approve the expenditure necessitated by the expeditions against Kassay and Mockry, chiefs, resident in the county of Grand Bassa.

It is my intention to have presented to your honorable body a budget for the present financial year, a step which is authorized, I believe, by the law regulating the Treasury Department.

Matters of minor importance not dealt with in this paper will be the subjects during your session of future communication.

In conclusion, fellow-citizens, our watchword at this time must be reform, reconstruction, increased efficiency, expansion.

I stand ready to expedite in all ways the business of the legislature.—*African League.*

LIBERIAN ENVOYS RECEIVED AT THE EXECUTIVE MANSION.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. BARCLAY ENTERTAIN IN ROYAL STYLE WITH HEARTY WELCOME—MEMBERS OF THE CABINET AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS, PUBLIC OFFICIALS, PROMINENT CITIZENS, AND LADIES IN LARGE NUMBERS PRESENT.

His Excellency President and Mrs. Barclay gave a grand reception in honor of the return of our envoys from America at the Executive Mansion on Tuesday, August 18th, from 7:30 o'clock to 11; but it was nearly midnight before the last group

of the brilliant company which assembled to greet the envoys took their departure.

President and Mrs. Barclay sat at the end and in the center of the spacious drawing room of the mansion with ex-President Gibson, Vice-President Dossen, and Hon. F. E. R. Johnson, Secretary of State, on their right, and on their left were C. B. Dunbar, Esq., and the secretaries to the envoys, Hon. C. R. Branch and Mr. T. J. R. Faulkner.

GENERAL CONGRATULATIONS TO ENVOYS.

Soon after the appointed hour the guests began to arrive, and after greeting the most honorable host and hostess, the envoys, Dr. Gibson, Vice-President Dossen, and Mr. Dunbar, were congratulated upon their safe return home and their evident good health. Congratulations were also extended to their secretaries, the Hon. Mr. Branch and Mr. Faulkner. After these formalities, Hon. F. E. R. Johnson, Secretary of State, arose and in a felicitous speech welcomed the envoys home on behalf of the Republic of Liberia. Among other things, he said that the commission was sent abroad in response to a feeling that our national interests demanded representation abroad such as could not be satisfactorily made by correspondence, and that our envoys in meeting and talking with the distinguished men of America and Germany had undoubtedly helped Liberia greatly, and that the President and Cabinet were gratified to learn of the enthusiastic reception accorded them by the masses of people, and the cordial greeting given them by the governments which they visited. The Secretary also said that the envoys had submitted to the President a comprehensive report of their proceedings, the contents of which would be made public in due time.

Hon. S. S. Roberts, acting mayor, then welcomed the envoys on behalf of the city.

EX-PRESIDENT GIBSON HIGHLY APPLAUDED.

Ex-President Gibson, on rising, was received with generous applause. He said that he was glad to be home again, and thanked the friends for their kindly greeting. The commis-

sion had discharged their responsible duties to the best of their ability, and while they could not go into the matter, as their report was placed in the hands of the President, yet that they could say that they were satisfied with the results of their work (applause). The venerable ex-President then sketched in his usual happy vein some of the experiences and observations made while abroad. He said that he was greatly impressed with the fact that everybody worked. Even men of means did something with their hands; that Dr. Booker T. Washington personally helped to cultivate his house garden, and in connection therewith he had his chicken yard and pig pen, and whenever he was at home he would take a hand in the work around. This was also true of Mr. Woerman. When in Hamburg, he paid a visit to Mr. Woerman's home, and Mr. and Mrs. Woerman took pleasure in showing their family garden, in which Mr. Woerman delights to do some work for a little while every day. This example of a great man like Dr. Washington and a rich man like Mr. Woerman should stir us in Liberia. Dr. Gibson spoke with enthusiasm also of the large number of educated and distinguished colored men and women whom he met in the United States, and he spoke especially of the brilliant intelligence of the ladies. He said that the deep interest which is taken in Liberia among the colored people has a strong hold among the women, and that if Liberia were ready for them he believed that hundreds of the better class of the colored people would come out to help us build up this Negro nation (applause).

VICE-PRESIDENT DOSSEN'S RINGING ELOQUENCE.

His Excellency Vice-President Dossen made the next address. He was enthusiastically received, and his magnificent address was punctured throughout with applause. His commanding presence and dignified bearing added force and effect to his brilliant address. We tried to get the Vice-President to reduce his address to writing so as to reproduce it in full, but a pressure of engagements prevented him from doing so.

TRIBUTE TO THE AMERICAN NEGRO.

After paying a graceful tribute to his colleague, Dr. Gibson, the Vice-President, said that his experiences and observations in the United States were in every respect gratifying, and that

the widespread interest in Liberia was a revelation to him. The reception and hearing given the envoys by His Excellency President Roosevelt and his distinguished Secretary of State, the Hon. Elihu Root, was hearty and encouraging. There is a large class of influential white people in America who want Liberia to have a fair show to work out her destiny, and many of that class came forward and helped the work of the commission greatly. The speaker dwelt upon the great assistance rendered the envoys by Dr. Booker T. Washington, and gave an interesting account of a visit made to Tuskegee Institute. He said that the school is a little town; indeed, here in Liberia, we would call it a city. It contains students and teachers to the number of three thousand persons. Every human industry seems to be represented, and the busy life of the place makes one think of a beehive. The success of Tuskegee shows beyond dispute the creative ability of the Negro and his genius for management. The speaker said that Liberia must send her youth to Tuskegee to be trained, and we must draw upon Tuskegee for some of the new men and women whom we need to help in the great work of perpetuating our nation. The speaker was heartily cheered when he said that the introduction of the trained Negro from America would greatly aid in solving the problem of Liberia's future. Enthusiastic reference was also made of a visit to Mr. Secretary Taft, now the candidate of the Republican party to succeed President Roosevelt; and the speaker was unstinted in his praise of the excellent aid rendered the envoys by Dr. Lyon, the American Minister at this capital. He also dwelt upon the reception by the German government and people, and expressed entire satisfaction with the results of the mission.

DUNBAR SUGGESTS THE GOSPEL OF WORK.

After the cessation of the applause which followed the address of the Vice-President, Postmaster General Prout called for Counsellor Dunbar, who, after considerable applause, arose and said that he appreciated the greeting, and if the hour were not so late he would preach a little on the gospel of work, as he felt more keenly than ever before that if our country is to prosper we must work more, and thus create here a producing class.

He dwelt for a moment on the splendid reception which the envoys received from the Germans, and said that our future was in our own hands, as our friends everywhere stood ready to aid us in the work of developing our nation.

FAULKNER CLOSES THE SPEAKING PROGRAM.

Mr. Faulkner also made some interesting remarks, expressing his appreciation of having had, through the appointment of the President, an opportunity to present to the American people the general interests of Liberia, especially with reference to her commercial development.

REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC.

At this point refreshments were served, and busy waiters and waitresses kept coming and going with heavily laden trays of delicacies, cocoa, and soft drinks, while the guests intermingled freely and indulged in lively conversation. The pleasure of the occasion was enlivened by excellent music from the Youths' Orchestral Band.

T. McCANTS STEWART.

THE LIBERIAN COMMISSION.

From current newspaper reports, the Liberian commission is meeting with most favorable public sentiment in America. Our latest communications indicate that they have already been the recipients of great public favor and consideration on the part of the most distinguished officials and citizens of the American Republic. Through the recommendations and good offices of His Excellency Ernest Lyon, Minister Resident and Consul General to Liberia, these gentlemen met on their arrival Dr. Booker T. Washington, the most distinguished Negro citizen of America, who at once took them in charge, and made it convenient for them to come in contact with the best in the social and political life of America. They have met leading churchmen and statesmen and had a conference with His Excellency Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States. They have had banquets and royal receptions; a trip to Tuskegee In-

stitute, at which place they witnessed the commencement exercises of this historic educational center, all upon the kindness and hospitality of Dr. Washington; attended the commencement of Howard University, Washington, D. C., of which Dr. Wilbur P. Thirkield is the honored president; had interviews with newspaper reporters as to their mission to America; mingled in the social and church life of the American commonwealth; touched the springs of national influence and presented the burden of their mission to a great sympathetic and deeply interested Executive and State Department.

Being in the United States at this time upon ecclesiastical duties, Bishop I. B. Scott has left no stone unturned to interest the American people in Liberia, and in his interviews with leading statesmen and newspaper men he has lost no opportunity to press the claims of Liberia upon the thought and conscience of the American people. The commission has been worthily represented in public utterances by Vice-President J. J. Dossen, whose words have been well chosen when approached by newspaper reporters for interviews. Among the most important interviews is one we note in the *New York Age* of June 4. In speaking of the resources of the country, Mr. Dossen said:

"It is the general impression that an awakening has come, that the 'Dark Continent' is a land of boundless natural resources, and reports from traders who have made excursions into the interior, pointing out to the capitalists that we have vast fields that can be made arable and produce magnificent crops; that we have mines from which stores of wealth can be obtained, and that our two and a half millions of untutored natives can be made the basis of an industrial army capable of converting these undeveloped resources into countless fortunes in the course of time by supplying the markets of the world with every conceivable article of commerce. Europe is seeking a new outlet for her money and a new reservoir of production, and we can attribute her menacing attitude to no other cause than that they covet this African El Dorado of ours. We, too, have become conscious of the value of the jewel we have in our hands, and do not purpose to let it slip through our fingers. While the mission which brings us to this country is primarily a diplomatic one, it also has a commercial bearing. Scarcely less im-

portant than the political phase of our labors here is our instruction to bring to the attention of the alert American capitalists the marvelous returns likely to grow out of judicious investments in Liberia, and the systematic exploitation of our practically inexhaustible timber, rubber, coffee, and mineral resources, and the successful innovations that can be made in cotton and other profitable agricultural yields that will follow the development of those immediately at hand. Liberia is the natural field for the employment of America's idle capital, and this rich country offers a vertible gold mine to your enterprising captains of commerce who are wise enough to 'take the tide at its flood.' "

In speaking of the American Negro, Mr. Dossen said:

"The opportunities of the American Negro as compared with those of the African Negro, at this time, are as 100 to 1. I have had the pleasure of meeting quite a number of your best men and women since we landed on these shores, May 16, and I have been deeply impressed with the grasp they have upon the institutions of the country. In business, in the schools, in the many churches, in agriculture and the industries, and in political life, the American Negro is filling a space that is making him envied the world over—not only by Negroes, but by the whites as well. To the poor white foreigners who come here from the monarchical governments of Europe, the elegance in which the black people live is a revelation. Compared with what we have to contend with in poverty-stricken and undeveloped Liberia, you have everything to be thankful for, even if your status in many respects is far from ideal. * * * The future of the people of this continent is not seriously imperiled as long as you have such a capable, intelligent and thoroughly loyal leadership, as we have found exemplified in the men we have met in official, professional, ministerial, and commercial life. We are delighted with America, and with her people and her institutions, and it may safely be said that the American Negro is just really entering upon the civic exaltation that is to be his in the current of the years."

All Liberians should be proud to note the impressions of Mr. Dossen as given above, both as to how Americans have impressed him, as well as the most favorable impression made by him and

the commission upon the American public. But the work of this commission at this time is not merely a matter of impressions and sentiments; these men have been sent upon one of the most important and delicate missions ever committed to foreign ambassadors. The conditions by which this lone black Republic upon the West Coast of Africa is at present surrounded call for the most serious consideration on the part of her statesmen and citizenship and the good offices of all friendly foreign powers. It is to be hoped that such measures may be adopted as to secure the independence of Liberia inviolate, and fix a permanent standard for her financial and industrial development, thus safeguarding to the black race the only sovereign and independent state among the teeming millions of this benighted continent.

Liberia is confronted with the problem of a "frontier police force," made mandatory by recent agreement between this Republic and her neighbors which involves the serious consideration of enlisting into service the subjects of a foreign power; she must grapple with the tremendous burden of remote and recent British loans, the latter of which involves her customs revenue; she must struggle with the experiment of incorporating into the body politic her raw native population, whose numbers are enormous and almost appalling when compared with the decimated and depleted Americo-Liberian inhabitants of the Republic; she must meet the demands of a thoroughly organized system of public instruction, the lack of which stands as a constant menace to the development of true citizenship; she must contend mightily with the wave of commercialism and greed which now sweeps over the continent in order to maintain her place as a sovereign and independent State and prevent being deluged by the rising tide of European aggressions. These, together with the problem of immigration, the lack of the proper development of her agricultural resources, and the threatened encroachments of foreign powers, are sufficient to fill the heart and hand of the Chief Executive and arouse her population to most manly and strenuous exertion in order to establish and maintain her place among the sisterhood of international States. Long live Liberia!—*Liberia and West Africa.*

REMARKS OF H. R. H., THE PRINCE OF WALES.

My Lords and Gentlemen:

I have ventured to introduce a toast which has not been hitherto proposed at these annual gatherings; it is the toast of "The British Dominions Beyond the Seas." It does not seem to be out of place when we consider that one of the first objects of this institute is to develop the true spirit of empire, and to strengthen those links of kinship which will bind forever the vast and varied portions of the over-sea dominions with the mother country. Events move so quickly that we are apt to forget how much has been achieved in this direction. Modern science has done wonders in making time and distance vanish. It is astounding to realize what has been accomplished in securing quick, constant, and continuous communication between the different provinces of the empire since, say, the accession of Queen Victoria. At that time there was only one small railway in the colonies, and that was in Canada. The first steamer from England to Australia did not run till 1852; it is only fifty years ago since the first submarine cable was laid between Great Britain and America; telegraphic communication was only established with Australia in 1872, with New Zealand in 1876, and South Africa in 1879. But in this short space of time how marvelous has been the progress! We have seen how the Canadian Pacific Railway has helped to make a nation; how railways have transformed South Africa and spanned the Zambesi at the Victoria Falls. Today, thanks to the railway development, we are opening up fresh and important cotton-growing areas in Nigeria and elsewhere. Mr. Price has told us of the great scheme of the Murray navigation, with its enormous possibilities. We also hear rumors of the promotion of similar enterprises in other parts of the world. Electricity now carries in a few minutes messages between every portion of the empire, and even keeps us in touch with our fleets, and with those powerful steamers which have brought us within a few days of the great continent of America. But though we have been successful in many ways, we must not lose sight of our common interests, aims, and objects, in the fulfillment of which there must

be mutual efforts, mutual self-sacrifice. Does such co-operation as we would desire really and fully exist? Undoubtedly there has been a great improvement in this direction. We earnestly hope that progress may be made in thoroughly grappling with imperial defense and in strengthening military organization in time of peace no less than in war. I also commend to your consideration the importance of reciprocity in educational matters. As chancellor of the University of the Cape of Good Hope, I trust that the old universities of these islands will always maintain sympathetic relations with those of younger portions of the empire. We know what has been done through the Rhodes scholarships. Oxford, four years ago, chose for her Regius Professor of Medicine Dr. Osler, one of Canada's most distinguished sons, while Professor Bovey, though born in England, has been brought from McGill University to be rector of the important Imperial College of Science and Technology now being established at Kensington. A new means of intercourse and interchange of thought between the members of the Anglican Church throughout the empire has been initiated in the coming Pan-Anglican Congress, which assembles in London next month, and I believe that every preparation is being made to give to its members a hearty welcome throughout the country. Is there not much to be accomplished by strengthening these social relations—by the mother country making it clear to her children that they are always certain of finding here a home, not in name only, but in reality, and the same warm-hearted hospitality as is always extended to us in every portion of the globe where the British flag flies? I have endeavored to touch lightly on the vital necessity for reciprocal action between those at home and our brethren beyond the seas. We must foster now and always the strongest feelings of mutual confidence and respect. By methods of education, by unity of action in everything that leads toward the noblest ideals of civilization, by utilizing the great powers of science, and by means of defense by sea and land we must strive to maintain all that we esteem most dear. If we hold hands across the seas we shall preserve for future generations a noble heritage, founded upon the highest patriotism and knit together by the ties of race and of mutual sympathy and regard.—*Journal of the Royal Colonial Institute, June, 1908.*

REMARKS OF THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE EARL
OF CREWE, K. G.

In rising to propose the toast, "Prosperity to the Royal Colonial Institute," I hope I may be allowed to express my personal satisfaction that this occasion is the first on which I have been called upon to make a speech in public since I was appointed to succeed in the care of the Colonial Office my friend Lord Elgin, to whose devotion to his official duties, informed as it was by long and high experience, I desire to pay a cordial tribute. In taking up an office of this kind, it is a certain consolation to feel that no man really knows the British Empire except to a great extent by hearsay. I ought, perhaps, to except his Royal Highness, who said with perfect truth that from the days when, as a very young officer in Her Majesty's navy, he went around the world, to these later days when, in company with Her Royal Highness the Princess, he has made official progresses as the heir to the throne, there is probably no man who has landed on so many different places within the confines of the British Empire. Leaving His Royal Highness for the moment out of the question, nobody knows the whole British Empire except by hearsay. You may meet a man who has been much in India, who knows something of South Africa, who has been in Canada, and perhaps also in Australia, but you find that he has never been to the Falkland Islands or to Papua, or perhaps he has never been to Glasgow or Belfast. His Royal Highness dwelt with great force on the changes which have taken place in the British Empire and in the relation of this country toward the empire within the last fifty or sixty years. It is forty years since this Royal Colonial Institute was founded, mainly, I think, through the instrumentality of the old friend of many in this room, the late Lord Albemarle. I know not what expansion there has been in the empire or how many hundreds of thousands of square miles have been added to it during those forty years. What is more important than expansion is the way in which the ties have been drawn closer together between the mother country and the other dominions of the Crown. During those forty years we may say, I think, that the whole world has

practically been pegged out. Except the regions of eternal snow and of eternal sand, there is probably no part of the world which is not now under some definite occupation. The age of expansion, therefore, has given place in some ways to an even more important and interesting age—that of development. Glance first toward Canada, which is just about to celebrate her tercentenary, and at the same time to celebrate the memory of that glorious struggle (an equal source of pride to both races) on the plains of Quebec. Canada has made most astonishing strides in material progress, and, as we are confident, will continue to make them. Canada, also, every year and at every conference, if I may name a sort of era by which the Colonial Office judges these things, is more closely, if possible, tied to the mother country. I turn to Australia, here represented by Mr. Price, to whose interesting speech we have listened with such great pleasure. Australia now, as Mr. Price has just told us, is concentrating her attention on the work of imperial defense. Nobody can have read the report of what took place on that subject of imperial defense at the late Imperial Conference without a feeling of pride and of pleasure. It did vast credit to the representatives of the dominions, and I hope did no discredit to the government at home. It showed, I think, a full sense of the reality of the imperial problem—that is to say, how to organize defense in a form suited to local conditions, and at the same time adapted to the needs of the empire as a whole. New Zealand, again, certainly yields to no other colony in her appreciation of what I may call the two patriotisms, the imperial and the local. I turn to South Africa. South Africa is now almost entirely composed of self-governing communities. She has difficult problems to face, but I believe that she will face them with the same determination and the same grit with which other parts of the empire have solved their problems. We hope it may not be long before the different communities of South Africa are fused together. That is a consummation to which we all look forward with satisfaction; and I think I may venture to say that, whatever government is in power and whoever may be the representative of the government of that day at the Colonial Office, we shall not fall into the error of tampering with the question, but that we shall desire to see those who

are qualified to speak for the different colonies in South Africa carefully considering the different problems which are set before them before we even attempt to raise an advisory voice in the matter. I turn for a moment to the dependencies. I say nothing of India, although we must never forget that this institute is concerned with India as well as with other dominions of the Crown, but, holding the office I do, I am not qualified to speak for India. Of the other almost countless dependencies, I will only mention two in relation to the progress made. Take, for instance, West Africa. A great many of us can remember when we only thought of West Africa as of a body of British officials forlornly clinging to a malarious coast, whereas further inland there had only penetrated a certain number of adventurous traders and missionaries, who sometimes were only too completely absorbed into the social fabric by becoming part of the food of the original inhabitants. Now we see, owing to the invaluable researches of the schools of tropical medicine, that those dire ailments which haunted the African shore are being, if not quelled, at any rate greatly diminished. We see railways penetrating inland, and the promise of commercial enterprise of great value, as we hope, both to the natives of Africa and to the people of this country. Take East Africa, which within the memory of many of us here was an ancient country. It represented to our minds the remains of an ancient Arab civilization on the coast, the towns of which are mentioned, as some of you may remember, so far back as in "Paradise Lost." But few of us knew very much more of East Africa than Milton himself did. Now East Africa, if not exactly a "Paradise Regained," is, at any rate, an important component part of the British Empire, with a great railway running to the mighty lakes, through districts in time to come, as we hope, destined to be the home of many settlers from this country, and also, like West Africa, destined to become the seat of great commercial enterprise. This institute has existed now for forty years. It boasts some 4,500 members, and, as I am now at the Colonial Office, I may be allowed, perhaps, to express my satisfaction that its treasurer, who takes so active a part in its work, is my friend Sir Montague Ommanney. The vitality of its members may be sufficiently indicated by the fact that at the very last discussion which took

place, with Lord Derby in the chair, a name so well and honorably known for its connection with the colonies, a very interesting paper was read by Lord Strathcona, who, I am sorry to say, is not here tonight, but who, as the reference books tell us, is entering, or has entered, upon his eighty-eighth year, while the chairman of a preceding meeting was a gentleman, whom I am glad to see here tonight, Sir Frederick Young, who is even senior to Lord Strathcona, and, I believe, a contemporary in age with her late Majesty, Queen Victoria. Well, one of the objects of this institute is to encourage meetings between those who come from different parts of the empire. No greater service can be rendered to the empire. One of the most difficult imperial problems of all is the distance which divides the different component parts of His Majesty's dominions. Much can be done by improvement in means of transit, but transit alone is not of much use, unless when people arrive at the same point they are encouraged to meet to make acquaintances, and, if possible, to make friends. That is one function which this institute performs. Also from time to time interesting and important papers are read, and discussions take place upon matters of high imperial interest. Lastly, but by no means least, the institute boasts a library amounting to some 70,000 volumes dealing with Colonial or Indian subjects, and in that respect is, I should think, the finest library in the world. Those facts are, I think, sufficient to ask you to drink with enthusiasm this toast. I am permitted to couple with the toast the names of two gentlemen. The first is Dr. Parkin, who speaks, I suppose, specially as representative of Canada, but is also, as much as any man, entitled to speak as a representative of the whole empire, because I very well remember, in what are now very old days, when I was invited by the late Mr. Forster to join the Imperial Federation League, and was proud to do so. Dr. Parkin was even at that time active in the propagation of the imperial idea. Now he is intimately associated with the Rhodes trust, that great legacy (which has the rare merit of being at once picturesque and practical) of the famous South African statesman. The other name which I am privileged to associate with the toast is that of Sir Richard Solomon. No man is more honored and trusted in South Africa, and we are fortunate in

having him in this country to give us the benefit of his sound and sane advice on subjects relating to South Africa. There are no two men more qualified to reply to this toast, because this institute, for which they are to answer, is an engine for doing what we all wish to do—namely, drawing closer all those bonds, elastic, but, as we believe, absolutely unbreakable, which unite this country and the dominions of His Majesty beyond the seas.—*Journal of the Royal Colonial Institute, June, 1908.*

OUR LIBERIAN ENVOYS MEET PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

An absorbing subject in administration circles yesterday was the petition of the government of Liberia that the United States intervene in future disputes between that country and England and France.

On Tuesday, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson showed that there was one member of the administration who was not overwhelmed with plans for the Chicago Convention to the exclusion of all else by talking about the prospect of bountiful crops. Yesterday President Roosevelt and two members of his Cabinet devoted much time to the troubles of Liberia.

Booker T. Washington, the Negro leader and the principal of the Tuskegee Normal Institute, called at the White House in the afternoon, and the President was so much interested in what he had to say about Liberia that he made an appointment for Washington and several citizens of the Liberian Republic to meet him at 9.30 o'clock last night. He asked Secretary of State Root to join the conference, and Mr. Root did so.

Then it was arranged that Secretary Taft—although there is no prospect that United States troops will be sent to Liberia or to England or to France—should meet Washington and the visiting foreign delegation.

The delegation consisted, besides Washington, of J. J. Dossan, Vice-President of Liberia; G. W. Gibson, a former President of the Republic, and C. B. Dunbar, a lawyer of that country. President Roosevelt gave his visitors no definite assurance that this Government will intervene in the dispute, but he assured

Washington and the others of his great interest in their cause, and strove to make them feel that he is alive to the welfare of the colored race in Liberia as well as in this country. It is presumed that Mr. Taft did the same, although no official announcement of what took place at the two interviews has been given out. The White House interview took place first, and then the delegation went over to Secretary Taft's house by appointment.

After their visit to the President and Secretary Taft, the following statement was given out by J. J. Dossen, one of the delegation and Vice-President of Liberia: "In view of the frequent recurrences of boundary questions between Liberia and her more powerful neighbors, resulting in a loss of territory to Liberia, we are seeking an arrangement with the American Government whereby the present territorial *status quo* of Liberia, which is recognized by existing treaties, may be assured. You will at once see the importance of such an arrangement to the future welfare and stability of the Black Republic. There are no outstanding boundary disputes to be adjusted between us and our neighbors, and it seems to us a propitious moment for the American Government to make permanent the handiwork of some of her noblest and large-hearted citizens who were responsible for the founding of Liberia. There are reasons more than mere sentiment why America should manifest a deep interest in us. We form a large and rapidly increasing Negro citizenship of this country, and hold Liberia as trustees for them and their descendants. This is the original idea, and although Negroes in this country may not now feel the impulse to emigrate to Liberia in large number, we think the country should be kept intact for all Negroes who might in future desire to return to the fatherland. Our formal reception at the White House and Department of State was exceedingly friendly and pleasant, and although we cannot say now what success will attend our efforts, yet the well-known large-heartedness and sympathy of President Roosevelt toward weaker races and governments inspire in us the hope that he will not turn a deaf ear to the entreaties of the feeble Republic. We are glad that the prospects are that he is going to be succeeded in the Presidency by Mr. Taft, who has been the President's right arm in carrying out reforms and instituting stable government, both in the Philippines and Cuba."

A public reception will be tendered the envoys this evening by the colored people of the District of Columbia, in connection with a special meeting of the Washington branch of the National Negro Business League, at Lincoln Temple Memorial Congregational Church, Eleventh and R streets northwest, and elaborate preparations have been made for the event. The affair will be open to the public without admission fee or card.

Addresses will be delivered by the envoys touching the commercial resources of their country, its present moral, educational, and industrial status, and the future they hope for it, with the assistance of their American brethren. Dr. Booker T. Washington will also be present and speak.—*Washington Herald*.

EX-PRESIDENT WILLIAM DAVID COLEMAN DEAD, THAN WHOM A GREATER STATESMAN LIVED NOT IN LIBERIA.

Like a clap of thunder out of a cloudless sky was the news flashed from Clay-Ashland to the national capital, on the 11th instant, that William David Coleman, ex-President of the Republic of Liberia, was dying.

MONROVIA ASTOUNDED.

As the startling news swept down the St. Paul river informing the anxious farmers and citizens that ex-President Coleman was dying, the effect was like unto frost in the month of June to field and forest, but when this news was broken at Monrovia, the capital was thrown into the wildest excitement—business men, churchmen, politicians, and statesmen were put to their wits' end. The national flag was half-masted, and friends and family relatives began to shed tears, for deep down in their hearts they knew that a great, good man was gone. He was a friend to the widow and orphan, to the poor and needy, and a strong pillar to the Church and State, whose record as a churchman and statesman was untarnished as a true, loyal public servant.

HIS EDUCATIONAL ADVANTAGES.

Ex-President W. D. Coleman was not a college graduate, but he possessed a common English training, which, combined with

his great resourceful nature, manly courage, and his wonderful adaptability and indomitable will, eminently fitted him for the many and varied offices of public trust which he so successfully filled during his political career.

FROM POVERTY HE ROSE TO EMINENCE.

William David Coleman began his career in Liberia as a poor boy from the State of Kentucky, U. S. A., and for a while served as a hired hand, to paddle canoe, from the settlement of Kentucky, on the St. Paul river, to Monrovia, at the same time undergoing many hardships. He was thrifty and energetic, however, and rose step by step from the position of constable until he reached the House of Representatives, and from that honorable body he was elected to the Senate of Liberia, where he proved himself the equal of the best of his countrymen as a statesman.

Ex-President Coleman long before his death had accumulated real estate equal to that of any man in the Republic.

AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

William David Coleman succeeded to the Vice-Presidency under President J. J. Cheeseman, and upon the death of that noble man he assumed the reins of government as President of Liberia, which office he filled (in the words of Bishop S. D. Ferguson) with "manly courage," and during his career as Chief Executive he proved to the people of Liberia and to the world that he was not a coward. During his administration of the national affairs the Liberia College was reopened to the service of the people. The annual payment of the '71 loan was inaugurated, and our national bonded warehouse system was established, the fruits of which are well known to the people.

During the time when these national institutions were being established your humble servant and editor of the *African Agricultural World* was duly elected Secretary of the Senate of the Republic of Liberia, having been nominated by President W. D. Coleman, and therefore he is well acquainted with Ex-President Coleman as President of the Republic of Liberia. And the editor can join with Bishop Ferguson's funeral remarks, that William David Coleman was no coward.

THE FUNERAL EXERCISES.

At 6 o'clock a. m., Sunday, July 12, the Clay-Ashland Battery announced the death of Ex-President Coleman, and from that hour until 12 o'clock noon the "Delta" of the St. Paul river was the scene of great activity. All the available steam launches and boats at Monrovia were put in service in order to get the troops and citizens to Clay-Ashland. Amid the tramp of soldiers and booming of cannon the funeral preparations were completed, and at 12 o'clock noon, under the joint direction of the Masonic Order, the U. B. F. Order, and the Mechanic Society, escorted by the military under command of Col. J. A. Railey, of the First Regiment, the funeral procession began moving toward the P. E. Church, Clay-Ashland, headed by the Clay-Ashland brass band.

Once at the church the service began promptly, being opened by Rector McKra, followed by Rev. N. H. B. Cassell, rector of Trinity Memorial Church, Monrovia, who read some data on the life and character of William David Coleman, which remarks, though not complete, were highly appreciated and in place.

Bishop Ferguson then arose and announced as his subject for the occasion, "How are the mighty fallen!"

The Bishop appeared to all present to have been filled with the "Holy Ghost," and he preached a funeral sermon the memory of which only time can erase.

The Bishop stated in the outset that William David Coleman was a mighty man, and for several reasons, and he then proceeded to explain what constituted the greatness of William David Coleman. He spoke of Ex-President Coleman as a poor boy, paddling the canoe on the St. Paul river, and traced his steps from one stage to another through the meanderings of his youth and early manhood, until he began his official career. He referred to the illustrious dead statesman as a successful farmer, business man, politician, and statesman, in all of which positions he had been very successful. The Bishop again referred to the resourcefulness of William David Coleman, illustrating the same by reference to his manliness on retiring from the Presidency under the straitened circumstances, saying, among other things, that as business man, farmer, politician, churchman, and statesman William David Coleman had no equal in the Republic of Liberia for his manly courage, adaptability, and resourceful-

ness. And as he uttered those powerful words it was noticeable that all through that great multitude of people men and women were shedding tears; and well they might, for they knew that the words of Bishop S. D. Ferguson were all true. After admonishing the family to stick to the advice which William David Coleman had given them, he spoke in words of comfort to his widow, committing them all to the care of God, and closed one of the greatest, if not the greatest, funeral sermons that has ever been heard in Liberia. Then, under the usual formalities by Bishop Ferguson and Rev. N. H. B. Cassell, the burial service was performed.

Then the Masons, the U. B. F.'s, and Mechanic Society in turn performed their burial services, followed by the military salute, and William David Coleman, Ex-President of the Republic of Liberia, was laid to rest.

We extend condolence to the bereaved widow of the deceased and his children, and weep with them in their troubles in the loss of so great a husband and father.—*The African Agricultural World*.

LIBERIA AND THE FOREIGN POWERS.

The commission sent by the Republic of Liberia to the United States of America, and which has just returned, represents the most significant movement in the history of this Republic. The sixty-first anniversary of the existence of Liberia as a sovereign State has just been celebrated; through these six decades of national history many have been the experiences and trials of this struggling people. The executive government has been constantly confronted with the problem of territorial delimitation, out of which has arisen from time to time the encroachments of England and France upon this small strip of territory bequeathed to the Negro as an experiment of sovereign power and self-government. Liberia has made several unsuccessful attempts to fix a permanent boundary between her territory and that of the above-mentioned "powers," but despite this fact the territory of this small Republic has been sliced off time and again by these aggressive neighbors, so that what is Liberia's hinterland today becomes French and English frontier tomorrow. While these

encroachments have been going on between two rival "powers," Germany has stood off and watched the game of hide and seek as it has been played upon the delimitation scheme, with the infant Republic as the constant loser.

Aside from these conflicting interests in her territory, the Republic has, through all of the years, struggled under the tremendous weight of a financial problem, the solution of which has become more complex and confusing as the years have gone by. To meet the exigencies of the occasion it became necessary in 1906 to take some step looking toward the alleviation of the fearful financial stringency that hung like a terrible nightmare over the entire people and throttled the nation to the very death. Under such unfortunate conditions an agreement was entered into between the Republic of Liberia and certain English capitalists, through their accredited agents, by which the Republic of Liberia obtained a loan of one hundred thousand pounds sterling, aggregating four hundred and eighty thousand dollars in the monetary denomination of this country. We do not purport here to discuss the wisdom and propriety on the part of the Liberian government in accepting all the terms and stipulations of that agreement, but simply state this as a fact in the conditions confronting the Republic. Suffice it to say, however, that this measure, as adopted by the national legislature and endorsed by the executive branch of the government, was but the struggle of the nation out of a condition of financial desperation with the hope of putting the government upon its financial feet. The thing was done with misgivings on the part of the people in general and the most sober reflection on the part of both the executive government and friends of the Republic. It is a scheme, the tangled threads of which have not as yet been woven into a national garment to hide the financial nakedness of the Republic. Thus President Barclay and his official family faced a solid fact, when to stand still meant national death, while to act in the premises and under the circumstances meant at least temporary relief and national financial life; thus, between two evils, the government adopted, in its judgment, what was considered to be the lesser under existing conditions.

During the latter part of the year 1907 President Barclay was called to Europe upon important matters touching the frontier

of the Republic. The departure of the President caused much popular unrest, but on his return it was explained that satisfactory agreements had been reached between the powers concerned and this Republic with respect to the frontier, and this recent agreement comprised a "frontier police force," which has been put in operation under Major Cadell, a British officer, who now has his headquarters in the city of Monrovia. Thus Liberia is again brought face to face with the problem of occupying and policing her frontier, the same thing which was recommended by Mr. B. J. K. Anderson, Sr., more than thirty years ago when he made his historic delimitation expedition. In this and other phases of the present situation the executive government is kept in a state of anxiety, growing out of explicit demands on the part of foreign powers on the one hand, and a state of popular unrest, bordering on lost hope and inevitable despair, on the other. So rife was this popular sentiment with respect to the apparent advantages taken by these foreign powers in their relation and dealing with a weak nation, that the thirty-first legislature authorized the appointment of a commission which should be sent to the United States of America to solicit the good offices of the American Government in the maintenance of Liberia's independence and national integrity. This has been done. The commission has returned and rendered its report to the executive government, and the people of Liberia now await with the deepest anxiety to know the full contents of this report as it affects the future weal of the Republic.

In this present game of international diplomacy regarding a weak and helpless nation, it does seem inhumane, to say the least, for these stronger "powers" immediately concerned in the delimitation and frontier scheme, to carry out a program in which Liberia is made the victim of a land-grabbing game for the selfish gratification of these nations for territorial expansion. Is it true that these world-grasping "powers" will deny the capability of the black peoples of the world in self-government, and then rob them of a small strip of territory upon which this experiment is being worked out? While it is the duty of every nation to protect its frontier from foreign invasions and hostilities, is this present urgent demand on the part of a foreign power for a "frontier police force" prompted by a desire to safeguard and

protect the territorial interests of the Republic of Liberia, or is this the game of the elephant putting one foot in the hermit's tent? Is the present management of Liberia's customs revenue under British officers meant to properly train Liberian officials for this important duty, and is it the assistance of a foreign power in the liquidation of an honest debt in which that power is the creditor, or is it the index finger, pointing to the financial and material domination of a weak and unfortunate nation? In view of such uncertainties it is natural that the Republic should seek the advice and friendship of the foreign powers not immediately concerned in Liberian territory.

The nations owe it to the black race to maintain the integrity and independence of this the only Negro republic upon the west coast of this great continent, and in the midst of worldwide greed and commercialism spare this lone tree in order that it may bear fruit to the satisfaction and achievements of the African, thus vouchsafing to posterity the possibility of self-government on the part of the black race. In this it behooves every Liberian citizen and every friend of the Republic to stand up manly for the fundamental principles of national independence as enunciated by the framers of the Declaration of Independence and the National Constitution. To this end the executive government should have the most hearty support of the entire citizenship, for the government under existing circumstances occupies a most critical and unenviable position in its attempt to administer national affairs under the mandates of stronger powers, and facing, as it does, a system of constant compromises, being surrounded by conditions over which it has no control. Upon the successful solution of the problems which confront the present administration depends the future weal or woe of the Republic. The delicate and intricate questions of diplomacy demand the patience and endurance of every patriotic citizen, for the secrets of diplomatic correspondence on the part of the Executive and State Departments of the government cannot be divulged, for such would not be in keeping with diplomatic usages and detrimental to the public safety. May the God of nations preserve this struggling people from foreign and domestic foes, and cause the lone star to shine forever in the bright galaxy of national constellations, to light up the path of self-government and civilization among the black populations of the globe.—*Liberia and West Africa.*

SYMPOSIUM OF NEWS FROM AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS ON LIBERIAN ENVOYS.

LIBERIA'S CRY FOR HELP.

The internal affairs of Liberia are apparently in a bad way, brought about not by a revolution or a fresh looting of the meagre treasury, but by the last stages of a quiet encroachment on Liberian territory which the British and French have been gradually carrying on for years and to resist which no Negro statesman of intellect and ability has arisen. Coming so closely after another revolution in Hayti, this trouble in Africa seems to give of the color of truth to the contention that Negroes are incapable of governing themselves. And yet in some of the "banana republics" of Central America white men have made no better record than the blacks of Hayti and Liberia.

However that may be, a delegation is about to lay Liberia's trouble before our State Department with the hope of getting some sort of relief. That these unhappy people should look to us is natural. The Liberian Republic was established under our auspices sixty years ago, and though it has been half a century since the American government sent any blacks thither to become permanent settlers, we are still in some sense guardians over that country and it is in recognition of some responsibility on our part that these hopeful Negroes have come across the sea to get us to help them untangle their affairs and start them anew toward self-government and prosperity. Of course we should not wish to shirk any duty in the matter; and yet we must be exceedingly chary of becoming involved in the African scheme of spoliation. Secretary Root will need all his skill to meet the embarrassing situation.—*Providence Tribune*.

PRESIDENT SEES LIBERIANS.

Washington, June 10.—An absorbing subject in administration circles today was the petition of the government of Liberia that the United States intervene in the dispute be-

tween that country and England and France. President Roosevelt and two members of his Cabinet devoted much time to the troubles of Liberia.

Booker T. Washington, the leader and principal of the Tuskegee Normal Institute, called at the White House early this afternoon and the President was so much interested in what he had to say about Liberia that he made an appointment for Mr. Washington and several citizens of the Liberian Republic to meet him at 9:30 o'clock tonight. He asked Secretary of State Root to join the conference, and Mr. Root did so. Then it was arranged that Secretary Taft should meet Mr. Washington and the visiting foreign delegation, which consisted, besides Booker T. Washington, of J. J. Dossan, Vice-President of Liberia; G. W. Gibson, a former president of the Republic, and Charles B. Dunbar, a lawyer of that country.

President Roosevelt gave his visitors no definite assurance that this government will intervene, but he assured them of his great interest in their cause, and strived to make them feel that he is alive to the welfare of the colored race of Liberia as well as in this country. It is presumed that Mr. Taft did the same, although no official announcement of what took place at the two interviews has been given out.

The White House interview took place first, and then the delegation went to Secretary Taft's house by appointment.—*New York Commercial*.

PROGRESSIVE NEGROES.

Liberia's appeal to the United States for help recalls that it was the United States that gave life to that Negro Republic on the West Coast of Africa. Great things were hoped from it for the Negro, but expectation has not been fulfilled. A delegation of Liberians is now in Washington asking that the United States help to rehabilitate the government.

The appeal is coincident with and lends interest to a statement from Dr. David Randall-Maciver, who has just reached Philadelphia from Alexandria, that as the culmination of the

remarkably successful University of Pennsylvania archaeological expedition to Egypt he has discovered absolute proof that civilization of a high order existed among the Negro race for 700 years.—*Boston Journal*.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, June 10.—The President had a conference this evening with Booker T. Washington and three Liberian commissioners who are in this country for the purpose of interesting the administration in the preservation of their Republic's autonomy. J. J. Dossen, Vice-President of Liberia; G. W. Gibson, ex-President of that Republic, and C. B. Dunbar, an attorney, constitute the delegation.—*New York Tribune*.

The West African Republic is seeking protection against the invasion of her territory by her mighty neighbors.

Washington, D. C., June 10, 1908.—J. J. Dossen, G. W. Gibson, and C. B. Dunbar, compose a special envoy from Liberia with T. J. R. Faulkner and Chas. Branch secretaries.

They have declared that their errand is to seek protection against England and France, which nations have caused much trouble by frequent invasions of her territory and causing her to suffer great losses in territory.

The envoys were cheerfully received today by President Roosevelt, and later on by Mr. Taft, Secretary of War.—*N. Y. States Zietung*.

PRESIDENT TO NEGRO.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WHITE AND BLACK RACES.

It pays far better to support the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in a community than to pay the salary of a policeman.

"All men up" is a much safer motto than "Some men down."

It is the duty of the white man to see that exact justice is meted out to the colored man, the same justice he would receive if he were not colored.

Upon the colored man is imposed the duty to make himself a useful citizen; to so behave as to win the respect of his white neighbor.

It is to the greatest interest of the white people no less than of the colored people that all possible educational facilities should be given the colored people; and it is of even greater interest to both races that the colored man should strive for his own industrial and moral uplift.

It is the colored man himself and no outsider who can do most for the colored race.

The President, at the laying of the corner stone of the colored Young Men's Christian Association, in his address said:

"It is to me a matter of peculiar pleasure to be present on this occasion, at the laying of the corner stone of the building for the colored Young Men's Christian Association of Washington. The Y. M. C. A. has worked among colored men for less than thirty years. For a number of reasons for some time after the work was begun very little progress was made; indeed, at first, curiously enough, the churches tended to antagonize the Y. M. C. A. But during the last twenty years the Y. M. C. A. work among our colored fellow-citizens has proceeded rapidly, and these are the very twenty years in which the colored race in America has made most progress.

"The religious people, those standing highest in the colored churches, now appreciate, as they failed to appreciate a quarter of a century ago, that innocent sports and amusements should be encouraged, and that the poorest lesson to be taught to any men of any race is that pleasure and vice are synonymous terms. The bowling alleys, the swimming pools and gymnasiums of the Y. M. C. A. buildings are adjuncts of a very important kind to the effort for the moral and religious uplift with which the Y. M. C. A. movement has always been identified. Moreover, the Y. M. C. A. reaches both the classes that are reached by the churches and the classes that the churches fail to reach.

"Such a building as this will be is open every day and every evening. It brings in men of many different types, for it appeals to many different sides of human nature. Already the colored Y. M. C. A. has a membership in this country of

nearly 10,000, 5,000 belonging to the thirty-seven city associations and 5,000 to the student organizations. Of the \$30,000 spent last year, the current expenses of the thirty-seven city associations, three-fourths were paid by colored men.

"It is noteworthy that of the 10,000 colored men attending the colored colleges of this country, half are active members of the Y. M. C. A. This speaks well for the spirit of these colleges, and gives us hope and encouragement for the character of the leaders of the colored race in the future. Over 4,600 volumes were circulated last year from the as yet limited number of colored Y. M. C. A. libraries.

"No city in the country presents a better or wider field for useful Y. M. C. A. work among the colored people than Washington. Here we have more than 20,000 colored men, who have, unfortunately, but few safe places to which to go for innocent amusement. Hundreds of young colored men are every year lured away from the habit of decent living because they are not supplied with the chance to go where innocent and healthy amusements are provided in surroundings that encourage education and morality. I cannot too heartily commend the action of those colored men who are responsible for starting this building.

"When completed it will be a tribute to the advancement of colored races: and also a monument to the advancement of the city of Washington. It will be a model for the entire country; it will influence other cities; and it affords an excellent opportunity for both white and colored men to join in the work of uplifting a class that sorely needs aid.

"The colored man who builds that which improves and beautifies his city earns the right to the respect of his white neighbor, and benefits himself in a double way. I hope that the colored men will contribute freely toward this building, and I hope that their white friends will help them also. Such a building as this means the improvement in morality, in Christianity, in education, of the colored citizens of Washington, and therefore it concerns not only the colored people of Washington, but the white people also.

"When completed this building will cost \$100,000, and no

sum of money could be better expended. In thirty days the colored people of this city pledged \$25,000 in order to secure a gift of \$25,000 contingent on their raising a like sum.

"Of this \$25,000 pledged by colored men, only \$12,000 have been paid in, and right here let me say a word to the colored men who have pledged sums and have not redeemed their pledges. No man has a right to promise aid to a cause like this and not to keep his promise. It is the duty of every such man to make his promise good and to do it at once, and all those who have not pledged for a contribution should likewise contribute. Every church, every fraternal and civic society of the race, every colored man of means, should feel the obligation to complete this building as soon as possible.

"Let me mention a couple of cases in which colored men have contributed largely to work of this nature.

"A colored man, born a slave in Knoxville, Tenn., was so much impressed with the value of the Y. M. C. A. work among young white men that he gave a piece of property costing \$2,000 to the colored Young Men's Christian Association. He has the honor of having given the largest gift up to that time of any individual in the State of Tennessee, regardless of color, to the association movement.

"Another colored man, who was born on the Gold Coast of Africa, came to this country at an early age, was befriended by the Philadelphia Y. M. C. A., and by the use of their library prepared for a competitive examination, entered the University of Pennsylvania after winning the prize, received his education, and is today a very successful physician, in the city of Portsmouth, Va., gave \$500 to the building fund of their association a year ago. He also gave \$100 for current expenses the first year the association employed a secretary, and says: 'The reason I make these gifts is because I owe all I am to the Young Men's Christian Association.'

"Many other cases might be cited showing how this work appeals to reputable colored men in many sections of the country. There is possibly nothing needed worse in all our cities and towns than well-organized Young Men's Christian Associations, which shall stand for character building in the threefold way in which the Y. M. C. A. endeavors to do its work.

"It pays far better to support the secretary of the Y. M. C. A. in a community than to pay the salary of a policeman. Homes are made safe and the community is lifted to a higher level by lifting these young men to better ideals of life.

"As for the white man, let him remember in this as in all other matters, that to do justice to the colored man is demanded not only by the interest of the colored man, but by the interest of the white man also. Sooner or later in this community every class of citizen will feel the effect of the raising or degradation of any other class. 'All men up' is a much safer motto than 'Some men down;' and it is to the interest of every class of any community that the members of every other class shall feel that industry, sobriety, good behavior, the conduct that marks a man as being a good neighbor and a good citizen, should receive a proper reward, so as thereby to put a premium upon the development of such qualities.

"I am not speaking of social relations, I am speaking of equality of treatment before the law, of equality of opportunity to earn a living, of equality of opportunity to earn the respect that should be accorded to the man who behaves decently, and is a good neighbor and good citizen.

"There are plenty of difficult problems in this country, plenty of problems requiring infinite patience, forbearance, and good judgment if they are to be dealt with wisely, and which cannot by any possibility receive even an approximately complete solution within a short time. What is known as the race problem is one of the most difficult, and it exists in the north as well as the south.

"But of one thing we can rest assured, and that is that the only way in which to bring nearer the time when there shall be even an approximately fair solution of the problem, is to treat each man on his merits as a man. He should not be treated badly because he happens to be of a given color, nor should he receive immunity for misconduct because he happens to be of a given color.

"Let us all strive, according to our ability, and as far as the conditions will permit, to secure to the man of one color who behaves uprightly and honestly, with thrift and with

foresight, the same opportunity for reward and for living his life under the protection of the law and without molestation by outsiders that would be his if he were of another color.

"The avenues of employment should be open to one as to the other; the protection of the laws should be guaranteed to one as to the other. Each should be given the right to prove by his life and work what his capacities are, and should be judged accordingly. Each is entitled to the reward which he legitimately earns if he behaves well; each should be judged with the same severe impartiality if he behaves ill.

"The same fair treatment should be accorded both, and every effort made to give equal opportunity to those of equal capacity and character. It is the duty of the white man to see that exact justice is meted out to the colored man, the same justice that he would receive if he were not colored; and upon the colored man is imposed the duty to make himself a useful citizen, to so behave as to win the respect of his white neighbor. The performance of duty should be the test applied to white man and colored man alike, and each individual should be judged not by the fact of his color, but by the way in which he meets these demands of duty; and the first duty which each colored man owes both to himself and his race is to work for the betterment both of himself and his race; for its educational, but above all, for its industrial and moral betterment.

"It is to the great interest of the white people no less than of the colored people that all possible educational facilities should be given the colored people, and it is of even greater interest to both races that the colored man should steadily strive for his own industrial and moral uplift.

"To teach by preaching is never as good as to teach by example. No words of advice and encouragement on my part can count in any way compared to what has actually been done by those colored men who have shown by their own success in life how a colored man can raise high his standard of good citizenship. It is the colored man himself and no outsider who can do most for the colored race.

"I want to call your attention and the attention of all who care to listen to me to the noteworthy record of the town of

Mound Bayou in Mississippi. I stopped at Mound Bayou a year ago while going through Mississippi. Twenty years ago the place was all wilderness. Now a thriving and prosperous town has been built, with a thriving and prosperous country round about, and every man in the town, every man in the country round about, is a colored man.

"In the *Planters' Journal* of Memphis, Tenn., a white man's paper, there is a description in an issue of a couple of years ago of Mound Bayou under the heading of 'The most remarkable town in the south.' This paper describes how the town has been founded, populated and managed purely by men of the Negro race.

"It is a thriving, growing town of 2,000 people. There is not a saloon nor a vicious resort of any kind in the town. There are some 6,000 people on the tract of land of which the town is the center. The tract includes about forty square miles, all of it owned by the colored people themselves.

"Ten thousand acres of land are in a high state of cultivation. There is a big cotton crop, and in addition the colony produces four-fifths of the corn and hay it needs, with many hundred of horses, mules, cattle, and hogs. In the town itself there are six churches and three schools. There is a bank with a capital stock of \$10,000, which does a thriving business.

"The assessed value of the land in the town itself is nearly \$25,000. There are saw mills, gins, blacksmith shops, bakeries, all without a white inhabitant in the neighborhood. The people are prosperous and singularly law-abiding.

"The white neighbors have treated them well. The county sheriff employs a colored man to act in the town in the capacity of deputy sheriff, and the railway and express company have a colored man in their office since the depot was established in the town, while the board of supervisors appoint colored road overseers. The town has forty-four mercantile and business houses, big and little, of all kinds, which do an aggregate annual business of about \$600,000.

"Surely such a showing by an exclusively colored community means very much for the future of the colored race. Of course the founders of the community were picked men.

Nevertheless it is an object lesson full of hope for the colored people, and therefore full of hope for the white people, too, for the white man is almost as much interested as the colored man in seeing that the latter rises instead of falls.

"Mound Bayou has taken the lead in establishing the Mississippi Negro Business League. Its members are not content with taking care of the business interests of the community. They have recently sent out a circular addressed to the Negro farmer, the circular being signed by Mr. Charles Banks, the president of the business league.

"This circular concludes with the following admirable advice:

" 'See to it that your potatoes are well housed for the winter. Kill enough meat to not be forced to call on the merchant so early as in former years, and instead of spending all the money you have cleared from your crops during circus, festival, and Christmas times, or visiting places from which you moved the year before, instead of spending your money for things that profit you nothing, if you have no land, begin to buy; if you have land and are not out of debt deposit your money in some good bank and prepare to meet your obligations when due; if you have land and are out of debt, buy more or invest your money in some good securities, or beautify your farms by building good houses, barns and fences; discard the old common stock of hogs, cows, horses and mules and buy better grades. Purchase up-to-date farming implements whenever practicable, and learn to make your crops as good and as easy as the ideal western farmer.'

"When the Negro farmer can measure up to what I have above indicated, he will be a happier and more useful citizen and his white friends will delight to have him in the land.

"Mr. Knapp of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, three weeks ago, secured a number of copies of this circular because he regarded the advice as so well put, so sound and so timely that he wished to circulate it as far as possible.

"The people of Mound Bayou have done admirably for

themselves; they reflect credit upon the whole country; and, above all, they are performing an inestimable service for the colored race."—*Washington, D. C., Evening Star.*

THE RETURN OF LIBERIA'S BIRTHDAY.

The return of the twenty-sixth of July, Liberia's birthday, a day which commemorates the adoption of the Constitution and the declaration of independence, by which Liberia was established and declared a free, sovereign, and independent State, giving opportunity for public manifestation and rejoicing, should by no means terminate there, but extend further and deeper, effecting lessons of the importance of the day and of the occasion upon the minds of both old and young—and most especially the young—lessons calculated to result in practical good, in impressing something of the importance of Liberia's mission with which is contained the life and perpetuity and destiny of the Republic.

It is said that the founders of Liberia were men of eminent piety. Men possessed with the fear and love of God in their souls; men who gave their lives for their country; men who endeavored to lay firm the foundation of Liberia. And praise be to God, they succeeded in doing so.

The founders believed that one of the important means for moral and social and spiritual uplift of Africa's millions depended largely upon the repatriation of the Negro from the western world. This idea seemed paramount in their great undertaking. They were determined to found and establish a Christian State, possessing all the dexterity of statehood, able to govern itself, vindicate itself, and carry out properly and honorably all that is contained within the range of civilized government.

The importance of such an undertaking as well as its difficulty surely must have been made known to the founders. For them to have won even the smallest measure of success, considering their common preparation for such a work, and the conditions which faced them in those days, was extremely remarkable.

They could have done worse; they could have totally failed; but they did not fail, and all whose eyes are open today and can reflect, will admit that they did remarkably well for their day and generation. Some may argue that day has passed. Very well, we admit that. But here presents the question: What about the present day? One may answer, a new day and period has set in; new conditions involve us; new perplexities stare us in the face, and greater responsibilities press upon us.

Since the declaration of independence, sixty-one years ago, many vicissitudes have taken place both in church and State, here on the African continent. With eager rapidity, governments have been formed, roads for motors built, schemes of different natures effected, and large mineral and agricultural growth developed.

In searching history we find all Africa, except Liberia and Abyssinia, has fallen into the hands of European powers. It seems that Europe is *determined* to possess Africa.

We are forced to ask, Will these two countries escape the avarice of Europe? If one will notice keenly "the signs of the times" and the tendency of affairs of Africa; if we notice the subduing and dominant spirit that the European has, as noticed from her past record *re* Africa, they cannot flee or escape unless they can amply vindicate their right to continue, by laying upon solid and invincible basis, their political, civic, material, and social structure. In this lies, we believe, their *only* protection and their greatest defence.

Let it be seriously hoped that in Liberia, our "land of the free," especially a land where black men alone are wholly responsible for governing—land that has been thought out the "garden spot" of West Africa—with its large arm of sea coast, its valuable, dense forests and high plateaus, its rich valleys possessing wealth and presenting many splendid advantages—with its thousands of indigenous elements yet to be reached, it is to be hoped that, with this day known throughout to one and all, "Independence Day," thought worthy of note should seize a firm and deep hold of all concerned and interested about the elevating and well being of the country.

To the young men upon whose shoulders the country is fast falling, I would beg, let the above thoughts animate you; open your eyes, see what is to be done; our country needs men, and above all, honest men. See the great work that now confronts our leaders of the day. If I understand rightly, the State and church need men, proficient men, honest men, Christian men. Notice, Liberia's best men are leaving us. Daily, monthly, and yearly, they go. Who will fill their places? I can see no answer except this: The young men of today are the ones. So, therefore, let us now begin to improve our minds and talents in every way possible, so equip ourselves that we can be utilized both in the State and church.

I conclude with the hope and desire that *we*, the young men and women (and especially the young men), arise from such low ebb and begin to put oil in our lamps; otherwise, when the present leaders of the country shall have passed off the stage of action and the country entrusted to our care, unless we are able to hold and maintain it, the "garden spot" will be surely taken from us. And why?—*H. G. Hayes.*

THE UNITED STATES A FRIEND.

DR. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON WRITES OF RECEPTION IN
WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE.

TUSKEGEE, ALA., *June 15, 1908.*

Mr. P. O. Gray, Editor *African Agricultural World*, Monrovia, Liberia, Africa.

MY DEAR SIR: I thought that you and your readers would be interested in knowing something about the manner in which the Liberian envoys have been received in America. It is very seldom that a visit of any foreign representatives creates more interest and attracts more attention than is true of the Liberian envoys.

They have been quartered at the best hotels in New York and in Washington and have received the very best attention.

After spending several days in New York, they arrived

in Washington and made a formal call on the Secretary of State, and were received formally by the President of the United States. From Washington they came to Tuskegee Institute, under the escort of Mr. T. J. Calloway, one of my assistants. They spent two days inspecting the work of this institution, and delivered addresses at our commencement exercises, and at a special banquet given in their honor by the Twentieth Century Club.

The railroads went out of their way to provide extra accommodations for the trip of these envoys from Washington to Tuskegee. The high officials of the railroads going so far as to telegraph their agents on the route, to give them special attention.

After finishing their visit at the Tuskegee Institute, where they made a special inspection of the operations of this institution, they returned to Washington, and had a second conference with Mr. Elihu Root, Secretary of State.

Arrangements had been made sometime ago by the writer for an extended visit to President Roosevelt. In this connection it will interest your readers to know that the President did something which he rarely does, and that is, made arrangements to receive the envoys and myself in the evening in the parlors of the White House, rather than in his office. There the envoys spent an hour with the President, while they went over in a painstaking and careful manner every detail in connection with their visit. He assured them that the United States would assist and encourage Liberia in every way possible.

Immediately after concluding their interview with President Roosevelt, the envoys were driven to the residence of Secretary Taft, where it had been previously arranged that the Secretary should receive the envoys and myself for an interview. Notwithstanding the very busy season through which Secretary Taft is passing, owing to the near approach of the Chicago convention, the Secretary received the envoys in his parlors, introduced them to Mrs. Taft, and spent an hour in discussing their problems. He, too, assured them that he had the most lively interest in all that concerns Liberia and its citizens.

The next day, notwithstanding that the Secretary of State, Mr. Root, had already made engagements covering every hour of the day, but when he found that the Liberian envoys wished to have a concluding interview with him, he re-arranged the plan of work for the day and gave them a special audience, which lasted nearly two hours. The Secretary gave the envoys every opportunity to present their views, and assured them that the United States would do everything within its power to carry out their wishes.

On Friday night, the day after they visited the President, a reception was tendered the envoys by the colored citizens of Washington, in one of their large churches, at which prominent people spoke. This reception was held under the auspices of the Local Negro Business League of which Mr. W. Sidney Pittman is president. One of the noticeable features of this reception was the display of a large Liberian flag, together with several smaller flags, representing the same.

While they were in Washington, a reception was also tendered them by Judge R. H. Terrell. I cannot take the time to enumerate the various functions that the envoys have been invited to participate in, in which they have been accorded special honors.

The American press, I am glad to say, both white and black, was most friendly in discussing the mission of the envoys to America. Wide and extensive publication of their mission has been made in the most influential news journals. This has helped the cause of the envoys in a most satisfactory way, I am sure.

This brief letter cannot be concluded without expressing the opinion, which has been expressed by everyone with whom the envoys have come into contact, and that is in reference to the fine impression that they leave upon every one who meets them. They impress us all as being a set of scholarly, dignified, courageous gentlemen, deeply interested in the welfare of their country; not the least characteristic of these envoys is their modesty, at the same time earnestness and courage. Everywhere that they have gone, they have not failed to impress individuals, both private

and public, that they represent a government and that they are maintaining the dignity of people, representing an independent State.

Yours truly,

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

"BLIND TOM."

Only a few weeks ago one of the musical wonders of the age—"Blind Tom"—died in Hoboken, N. J. While many Negro newspapers made mention of his death in their news columns, but a few referred to him editorially, the editors evidently being too busy with politics at the time.

In every section of the country the writer noted that the big daily papers regarded "Blind Tom's" death as a great loss, and on their editorial pages expressed themselves accordingly. The few editorials the writer read from the pen of Negro editors did not express any great sorrow over the death of "Blind Tom," but commented relative to the amount of money he made during life and what, if any, he left at his death.

What "Blind Tom" had accomplished in an artistic way and the amount of good he did in showing the musical possibilities of the race was not mentioned. Just the commercial side of the musician's life was taken into consideration—judging from the editorials.

It is true that "Blind Tom" made thousands of dollars during his life whereby others grew rich by his piano playing. But it must be remembered that, although "Blind Tom" was a musical wonder, he was born a slave with no business qualifications nor independence of spirit to combat in the commercial world. Then, again, he was blind, which made him more dependent.

Born blind even during this day and time, "Blind Tom" would have fared much better financially, for, in the first place, he would not have been a slave, and, secondly, he would have attained a higher degree of mental development

that would have enabled him to think and act more for himself. Regardless of "Blind Tom's" powers at the piano, we cannot forget that he was born a slave, and until after the war was carried about the country as recognized goods and chattel.

Even the liberation of the slaves did not mean as much freedom to him as it did to hundreds of others. He was under the management of his former master, and later the son of his master, and they made money with him long after the close of the civil war.

It must not be overlooked that "Blind Tom" was taken by his master when very young and turned over to an instructor; that the prodigy developed a fondness as well as unlimited confidence in his master, which was perfectly natural. After slavery days he did not pine for a change—he was satisfied, as were many slaves who had been given their freedom, but who were well content to remain with their former masters. The independence of spirit that now characterizes the race in many quarters was then absent. Conditions were vastly different to what they are today. Financially, "Blind Tom" was a failure—to himself. But, artistically, he was a success and molded sentiment for his people, which is oftentimes worth more than money.

As the writer stated above, the daily papers throughout the United States commented editorially upon the death of "Blind Tom," which all declared a loss to his race and to the musical world. But of all the articles written there is one that stands above the rest—an eulogy by Henry Watterson, editor of the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, which reads as follows:

"I cannot trust myself to write of him as I feel. It is as if some trusty, well-loved mastiff—mute but affectionate—closely associated with the dead and gone—had been suddenly recalled to be as suddenly taken away. The wires that flash his death lighten a picture gallery for me of the old, familiar faces. What was he? Whence came he? Was he the Prince of the fairy tale held by the wicked Enchantress; nor any Beauty—not even the heaven-born Maid of Melody—to release him? Blind, deformed, and black—

as black even as Erebus—idiocy, the idiocy of a mysterious, perpetual frenzy, the sole companion of his waking visions and his dreams—whence came he, and was he, and wherefore? That there was a soul there, be sure, imprisoned, chained, in that little black bosom, released at last; gone to the angels, not to imitate the seraph-songs of Heaven, but to join the Choir Invisible forever and forever."

Such is the sentiments of one of the best writers in the country relative to the death of "Blind Tom," and it cannot be denied that they are beautifully expressed.

It is true that "Blind Tom" was born a slave, deformed and black, to use the words of Henry Watterson. But within him was a soul that while living expressed itself by the Heaven-born Maid of Melody and charmed thousands of people during lifetime—white and black alike; a soul that during life created sentiment for the Negro on earth, and one that will live in a world without end.—*New York Age*.

"THE THREE NEEDS OF LIBERIA."

This lecture delivered by Dr. Blyden in the month of February last, at Grand Bassa, Liberia, has, it seems, obtained a wide circulation in Europe. It has been received and acknowledged by nearly all the members of the British Cabinet. We have seen appreciative acknowledgments of its receipt from the Prime Minister and Mr. Arthur James Balfour. Mrs. Alice Green, the widow of the historian John Richard Green, in referring to the pamphlet, says:

"You raise many interesting points. I was particularly amused by the hymn which was taught the African children quite regardless of the circumstances around them, and I quite agree with you as to the effect on the mind of this mechanical teaching and the false ideas instilled by it."

We take the following from *The Coming Day* for September, a monthly periodical edited by Rev. John Page Hopps:

DR. BLYDEN ON LIBERIA.

"The Three Needs of Liberia," by one who knows all about it, Dr. E. W. Blyden, an old and honored Liberian

(London: C. M. Phillips, Southampton Buildings), is an enlightening and touching plea for the natives and for things and institutions native, in that hapless land; and, at the same time, it is a plea for British guidance. Apart altogether from the grave political matters referred to by Dr. Blyden, his lecture is delightfully entertaining and instructive, crammed with first-hand facts, and wonderfully witty and shrewd. Here is a glimpse of Anglo-Saxon foolishness as seen from one of his windows:

Now I will give you some examples of the lessons from Europe and America by which we have been and are being misguided. Dr. G. W. Gibson, as a Liberian statesman, has always been strong in his desire and explicit in his utterances as to the importance of having text-books adapted to the needs and work of the Republic. Our statesmen generally have never been blind to this subject; but our education having as a rule been paid for from abroad (a mistake and a misfortune which it is hoped since the new financial departure will now be avoided), we have been obliged to submit to the incompatible teachings which this pecuniary obligation has involved. Take, as an example: Some African children have been taught to sing the following verses, which have no application whatever to the conditions:

"Whene'er I take my walks abroad,
How many poor I see;
What shall I render to my God
For all his gifts to me?"

"Not more than others I deserve,
Yet God has given me more:
For I have food, while others starve
Or beg from door to door.

"How many children in the street
Half naked I behold,
While I am clothed from head to feet
And covered from the cold.

"While some poor wretches scarce can tell
Where they may lay their head,
I have a home wherein to dwell
And rest upon my bed."

Now the state of things described in this hymn does not exist in Africa. It is impossible under the social order, and incomprehensible to the simple African child. But the singing of such sentiments inflicts upon the child the idea that it is a natural and proper order of things, from which, if it happens to be exempt, it is because it is a favorite child of Providence. But under the African system no child "has food while others starve." The fruits of the soil are as free to everybody as they are to the birds of the air. There are no "poor wretches who scarce can tell where they may lay their head." If the children are "half naked," it is because the climate requires it, not because they can get no clothing. It is not necessary that they should be "clad from head to feet", to be "covered from the cold." You see, then, that in the matter of common daily life African children are misled by such teaching and conceive ideals which are pitifully "Anglo-Saxon."

Dr. Blyden cites another of our inappropriate importations. Little Liberians are asked to believe in a "busy bee" which improves each shining hour,

"And gathers honey all the day
From every opening flower."

Not a bit of it, says Dr. Blyden. There is no such "busy bee" in Liberia. Liberia's bee is a shrewd fellow who wisely takes advantage of the climate and works only half time. "Our bee," he says, is prodigal. It always has plenty of time and opportunity. It has no need to "improve each shining hour." Every hour is shining, and all the year round. The Liberian bee is, in truth, a teacher of loafing or sleeping all the day, except morning and evening, and the Liberians very sensibly follow its example.

These are eye-opening illustrations of the well-meant stupidities incident to native rule by conceited Anglo-Saxons.—*The Sierra Leone Weekly News.*

ITEMS. .

TUSKEGEE HEAD SEES ROOT—BOOKER WASHINGTON CONFERS WITH SECRETARY ABOUT CONDITIONS IN LIBERIA.—Booker T. Washington, of Tuskegee, Ala., was among Secretary Root's callers at the State Department recently. He talked with the Secretary for some time regarding the condition of Negroes in Liberia. At the direction of the State Department, Ernest Lyon, consul general of the United States at Monrovia, is to make a general investigation of political, economic, and social conditions in Liberia.

Some months ago Secretary Root was visited by a delegation of Liberians, who were anxious to have the United States guarantee the independence of Liberia against aggressions by other powers.

THE ENVOYS AT HOME.—We are pleased to say to our readers and friends that the Liberian envoys, who were dispatched to the seat of the United States government a few months ago, have returned home well satisfied with their mission. The President received them cheerfully, and showed every indication of the fact that he approves the report, which embodies in it a brighter outlook for the Republic in its international affairs.—*The African Agricultural World.*

HONORED BY LIBERIA—ORDER OF AFRICAN REDEMPTION CONFERRED ON BOOKER WASHINGTON.—The State Department is informed that the government of Liberia has decided to confer upon Dr. Booker T. Washington, the Tuskegee educator, the Order of African Redemption, in consideration of his valued services to the Liberian government. It was through the good offices of Dr. Washington that the President, Secretary of State, and other high authorities of the United States became personally interested in the matter of the protection of the Black Republic from the encroachments of European powers and in its industrial development. Rev. Ernest Lyon, United States Minister at Monrovia, Liberia's capital, says the Liberian government confers this order with great caution and care, and it is much prized and sought after, in Europe especially. It is understood that Dr. Washington is the first citizen of the United States to be so honored by the Liberians.

HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT ARTHUR BARCLAY, of the Republic of Liberia, has, upon the recommendation of the Liberian envoys who were tendered a public reception in this city last July by the editor of *The Standard*, conferred upon him the decoration of "Knight Official of the Humane Order of African Redemption." The medal and diploma will be forwarded in a few weeks by the Secretary of State. The Hon. J. J. Dossen, Vice-President of the Republic, has extended

a cordial invitation to the editor to be his guest at Monrovia and Cape Palmas, and promises to kill the fatted calf. For all of which we are sincerely grateful. We hope some day to visit Africa, and to avail ourselves of the generous hospitality promised by our brothers beyond seas.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY CALENDAR AND HANDBOOK OF LIBERIA.—The Rev. S. D. Ferguson, Jr., B. D., of Cape Palmas, Liberia, is the author of the above work, which was published in the latter part of last year.

The handbook is described in the title page as "Volume 5," and is dedicated to Bishop Ferguson, D. D., D. C. L., K. C., the venerable father of the author. The object of the book is to furnish information to all classes in the Republic of Liberia, and naturally opens with a brief sketch of the history of the Republic, showing how it came into existence and how it developed into a "free, sovereign, and independent State." A map of Liberia is attached to the volume. Photographs of all the Presidents of Liberia are given in the book, as also a memorandum of important events which transpired since 1809, and brought down to 1907. Every information of interest finds a place in the handbook; such, for instance, as shipping intelligence, with a business directory; ports of entry, customs service regulations, currency, light-houses, taxes, municipal department, etc., and at the end of the book is the constitution of Liberia, as well as the national anthem of the Republic set to music.

The compilation of the work reflects credit on the industry of Rev. Ferguson, especially when it is pointed out that it was an effort of his leisure hours. Mr. Ferguson hints that what he has done is only the beginning, which will show "the goal at which he is aiming," and that when his plans are matured a handbook will be provided that will "furnish information to the physician, clergyman, lawyer, farmer, mechanic, merchant, politician, statesman, student, etc."

Several letters expressive of appreciation of the work are published at the beginning of the book, the need of which, it is remarked, has been greatly felt. It is to be hoped that the circulation of the present work will be such as to encourage the author to carry out his intentions, so that necessary information of Liberia may be made more accessible to outsiders than is at present possible. May we suggest that the population—either from census or some approximate estimate—of the various counties be included in the next volume.

The handbook is published at 84 cents, or 3s. 6d., and can be obtained from the author at Cape Palmas.—*The Sierra Leone Weekly News*.

NANTUCKET EXPRESSIONS.—The natives of Nantucket have a good many odd expressions, not heard elsewhere. Among them are these: When one desires to indicate something easily accessible, it is "as

handy as Caleb's cheese;" if a thing is clearly superfluous, the party has "no more use for it than Nick Meader had for his teeth;" the *ultima thule* of mental and political helplessness is expressed by "no more vote than Morselander's cat;" a palpably over-sized garment is said to "fit like a purser's shirt on a hand-spike;" while the summit and perfection of constitutional inefficiency is expressed by "as weak as Annie Burrill's tea." Explanatory of the first it is said that "Uncle" Caleb Macy was so fond of cheese that he constantly kept one cut on the kitchen shelf. As to the second tradition says that Nickolas Meader went away to work one day without taking his dinner. After waiting in vain at the noon hour for an invitation to dine with the family, he asked for a hammer, saying, "Guess I'll knock my teeth out." When asked why, he replied that he'd "no further use for them—couldn't get anything to eat." As to the unfortunate political condition of "Morselander's cat," tradition seems silent, up to date, of the facts in the case. The last proverb had its origin in the minister's being entertained at Sister Burrill's. She was a very estimable lady, but was so flustered by the honor that she forgot to put any tea into the pot, although the water was put in and duly boiled. The polite clergyman, when asked by his hostess if his tea was satisfactory, regularly responded, "It has no bad taste, madam," but "as weak as Annie Burrill's tea" passed duly into the island literature.—*Christian Work and the Evangelist.*

DR. A. P. CAMPHOR, who was for ten years connected with our mission work in Liberia, Africa, during which time he was president of the College of West Africa, at Monrovia, Liberia, has been appointed president of the Central Alabama College, located at Mason City, Ala., near Birmingham. His friends believe him thoroughly adapted to this class of work, and bespeak for him an administration of the highest success. That it may be so he has the most hearty good wishes of the *Southwestern*. The doctor is a graduate of the New Orleans University, where he served as a teacher for some time after his graduation. Mrs. Camphor received her training at the same institution, and is highly spoken of as a worker among young people.—*Southwestern Christian Advocate.*

LIBERIAN NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION.—The second annual meeting of the Liberian National Bar Association took place at Monrovia, Liberia, in the executive mansion, last spring.

A little pamphlet has been issued telling of the Association's work. Among the many addresses delivered at the meeting several touch upon Liberia's international relations and international law.

Undoubtedly at this present time, when the neighboring powers are so evidently covetous of Liberia's territory, it can be readily understood that the discussions were of the greatest interest. The general tendency shows that, whatever the premonitions of international com-

plications may be, Liberia looks upon the United States of America as a friend, a powerful champion for its rights, and an earnest advocate of arbitration in case of serious difficulty.—*Alexander's Magazine*, June 15, 1908.

EXTRACTS FROM QUADRENNIAL REPORT MADE TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ON MAY 13, 1908.—It is with sincere gratitude to our Heavenly Father, who has been pleased to call me to the work I have been doing during the past quadrennium, and with the highest appreciation for the words of encouragement and the financial assistance of friends throughout the church, that I come before this body to render my first quadrennial report.

* * * Liberia is the oldest foreign mission field in the church, and is situated north of the equator, but sufficiently near so that its entire area is within the torrid zone, and subject to the varied peculiarities and climatic disadvantages of all equatorial regions.

* * * In January, 1907, Bishop Burt visited the Liberia Annual Conference as the representative of the General Superintendents. Though necessarily brief, his visit made an excellent impression on the Conference and the people. He was accompanied by Bishop Hartzell, and all seemed much gratified to have present for the first time in the history of the work and of the Republic three bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Bishop Burt lectured on "Italy," and both he and Bishop Hartzell preached on Sunday, to the delight of the splendid audiences that came out to hear them. The bishops were invited to several dinners and a reception given by our Methodist people, and also to the New Year's reception given by President and Mrs. Barclay. There is no doubt in my mind that the presence of these brethren impressed our membership as did nothing else during the quadrennium that the interest of the church in the salvation of Africa is greater now than ever before.

* * * It cannot be said that those unacclimated do not have fever occasionally, nor that there is not now and then a death resulting therefrom, but neither of these is as frequent as in former years. Such conditions have been brought about by the commercial interest Europe has in Africa. Her purpose is to blot out as near as possible everything and everybody that hinders the progress of commerce. Medical schools have been established in Europe which make special study of tropical diseases, and the additional knowledge thus acquired has proven extremely beneficial to all concerned.

* * * Prof. Thomas R. McWilliams, a graduate of the State University of Kansas, and a man possessing special gifts as a teacher of the sciences, was called to his reward in April, 1905. He was a teacher in the College of West Africa. Just previous to his death his wife returned to the States in poor health, and in a few months thereafter passed into the beyond to join her husband.

In September, 1907, the Rev. J. B. Robertson, a man 71 years of

age, who went as a missionary to Africa in 1890, during Bishop Taylor's administration, was called home. He died at his post, and I feel confident that he never did a better year's work than during the last year of his life. He built a splendid mission house and a new church, with little expense to the board. At the time of his death he and his excellent wife were in charge of the Sinoe Industrial Mission.

Miss Agnes McAllister went to the field 19 years ago, and was desirous of rounding out 20 years of service for the salvation of Africa, but was not permitted to do so. Not feeling as strong as usual, the latter part of the past year she was granted a furlough. Just previous to the assembling of the Annual Conference she asked that her work be provided for, that she might start home, and went directly to the Madeira Islands. Here she spent a few weeks, and then went to Paris, hoping that by thus delaying her home-coming the warm season would have set in in the States by the time of her arrival. But the summons to her heavenly home came to her in Paris, and in her death the church loses a faithful worker, and the native African will never find a more devoted friend. She has done a great work in Africa.

* * * Some months ago I was in Cape Palmas, 250 miles below Monrovia, and an old king, who lived 80 miles away, heard of my presence there. He got into his canoe and came all the way down the Cavally river to see me. Bright and early one morning he made his appearance, and, bowing before me, plead for a teacher for his people and some one to show them "God's way." He had learned of what the mission was doing for one of the tribes below him, and he felt that his people could not keep up unless there was some one to give them the light. There was nothing to do but promise him that as soon as possible I would send him some one, and I feel that there are very few here today but what would have done the same. I promised him on faith, as I have had to promise others, and I am glad to say that the worker sent there has made an excellent beginning. When I visited the place I held services in the combination church and dwelling they had erected, and baptized those who had been brought into the kingdom.

* * * The Mt. Scott Church, Cape Palmas, a building named in memory of Bishop Levi Scott's visit to the Conference in 1853, has been remodeled at a cost of \$7,000, and the Annual Conference was held in this magnificent structure last February.

The Clay-Ashland Church, to which Bishop Haven referred in his communication, has just collected and expended on the improvement of the building upward of \$1,000. A number of smaller societies are at work either repairing or enlarging their houses of worship, and as a rule have all or part of the money in hand to do so. In order to understand fully the amount collected throughout the Conference, I asked the brethren at the session visited by Bishop Burt to report

what was raised in the different charges for self-help. That year it was \$10,781. At the recent session held the figures given for the year were \$23,241, and for the quadrennium \$35,270.38.

I believe it is but fair to say also that the civilized portion of the community is becoming more and more interested in the salvation of the heathen. When I saw an opportunity to take over a building, which had been erected for mission purposes as a memorial to a young colored woman who had formerly labored as a missionary in Liberia, and needed \$313 to do so, I called on the Sunday School Board of the First M. E. Church, Monrovia. After a full statement of the case, they said: "All right, Bishop; we'll give it to you." And they did. We have in this mission now two hundred and seventy-five members, most of whom only a few months ago were in heathenism; we have also a day school, with an enrollment of one hundred and fifty, and a Sunday School equally as large.

* * * In order to promote the cause of temperance, I secured the co-operation of a number of the best and most intelligent women of the Republic, together with some of the missionaries. Several largely attended and enthusiastic public meetings were held, and the attention of hundreds of people was called to the evils and destructiveness of strong drink. You will understand why progress along this line must of necessity be slow, when you are reminded of the vast quantities of rum and gin that are imported by European firms for the purpose of trade among the native people. And yet I feel perfectly safe in saying that the native church of Liberia is a temperance church, for no one is received who does not pledge himself to abstain from strong drink, and, if he be a polygamist, to give up all but one wife.

* * * I am reminded of an incident which is said to have occurred on one of the principal rivers of Liberia. Several European traders were being conveyed up the river in a surf boat which was pulled by some native boys. In an altercation between one of the traders and one of the boys the trader received a severe blow on the head. They determined at once to cast the native overboard. On being asked if he could swim, he said he could. Well, then, said one of the traders, we will tie your hands and see if you can. And this they did. The boy was thrown overboard, and when it looked as though he would surely drown, some one plunged in and rescued him. The great Methodist Episcopal Church elected me for the work I now have, and sent me into the wilds of Africa. I know full well what is expected of me, and have been trying with all my might to meet the expectation.

* * * My only plea is for the church to give me a fair chance to show what can be done. I beg of you to forget the color of my skin, forget the past history of my people, forget that Africa has not hitherto proven as productive a mission field as some others, and hear

once more the voice of the Master as he cries, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."—*Bishop I. B. Scott.*

"MORE IMPORTANT THAN ALL OTHER PROBLEMS."—"Let him who thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall."

Is this great nation so consumed by its phenomenal commercial growth, and so absorbed in the problem of its outlying dependencies, and so engaged in problems of finance and of tariff that it deliberately refuses adequate consideration of the cancer that is eating at the very seat of life of our national strength?

The mob spirit is defiant; nor is it sectional; nor is it confined to the hoodlum element, as we were once wont to think.

The cold-blooded murder of ex-United States Senator Carmack deserves more than passing notice.

The blood of the victims of the Springfield riot is not yet dry. The dying groans of the innocent victims still echo in our ears. The leaders of the mob have been tried and set free. And this, too, in the State of Illinois, and in the capital of that State, and in the shadow of the monument to the great apostle of liberty. In such cases in the South it is alleged that the murders are closely related to those who have charge of the judiciary, but what shall we say of Illinois?

Now comes the news of a triple lynching at Tiptonville, Tennessee. The crime of the Negroes is of no concern. Let that pass. But they had had a trial before a magistrate judge. They were convicted and sentenced to hang, and the sentence certainly would have been executed, but the angry mob grew restless and would not wait. With the death sentence upon them, the mob takes the three men and administers speedy death.

Well might the *Commercial Appeal* urge upon Tennesseans to "stop killing and to stop lynching, lest we ourselves perish." Let us dismiss for the time being the fact that the victims of the mob, as was the case in Atlanta, Springfield, and elsewhere, were innocent. Let us dismiss the fact that the innocent and the guilty suffer together, and oftentimes the innocent instead of the guilty. Let us be concerned alone with a tremendous fact that faces us.

Shall the law-abiding citizens rule or shall the law-breaking element control? That is the question. Is the nation to be or not to be the land of personal liberty guaranteed and protected for the helpless and strong alike?

The *Galveston (Texas) Daily News*, in looking into the gravity of the situation, discusses it under the heading which stands at the opening of this article: "More Important Than All the Problems." The *News* asks:

"Shall we have the reign of the mob or the reign of law in Tennessee? Shall we have mob rule or law rule all over the South and all over the United States? Have we come to the time when we can predict that some future historian will cite this country as having,

after a fair trial, proven by its collapse that a free government by a free people cannot exist?"

"To answer these questions," the *News* adds, "in the right way, is a duty which is incumbent upon every wise and patriotic American."

The situation existing is grave. Wisdom and patriotism are needed. The American conscience needs awakening. And yet there are thousands of pulpits mum on this question.

In multiplied instances the press—religious and secular—is concerned with other things. The *Galveston News*, to which we have just referred, sounds a bugle note. It says:

"As the fresh red pages of Tennessee history show, the lynchers do not stop with Negro criminals. They murder innocent Negroes, and they murder white men and women who are not even accused of crime. The man who dares to sell his own crop as he deems best, is summarily executed by a mob. As the Memphis contemporary says, we have got finally to answer for this whole miserable business. We ourselves will finally have to pay the penalty for crime—shooting and killing, whether it be assassination or mutual combat—whichever you please to call it—in the streets of Nashville, night-riding, murder in Obion, Negro lynching in Lake, pistol carrying everywhere, and the disposition of every man when his blood is up to be himself jury, trial judge, and executioner. We cannot denounce crime today, and condone crime tomorrow. We must not permit, for any cause, a suspension of the forms of the law. We cannot excuse one crime, though it is caused by another crime. We cannot accept the philosophy of Christ today, and promptings of the devil tomorrow. If we cast aside the rule that comes from heaven when it suits us, and substitute the law of hell, it will be only a short time until we shall have a hell on earth. That is the plain, blunt, and truthful way to talk about it."

These are earnest words, fitly spoken. Will we heed them?—*Southwestern Christian Advocate*.

LIBERIANS TURN TO THE UNITED STATES.—That the colored race throughout America manifest a deeper and more material interest in the welfare of Liberia was the theme that held the attention for two hours and a half of a large audience of Washington's colored population last night.

Addresses were made by the five envoys of the African Republic in this city, who discussed the past difficulties, the future hopes, and the vast business possibilities in their land.

The meeting was presided over by Booker T. Washington, and held under the auspices of the Washington Negro Business League at the Lincoln Temple Memorial Congregational Church, 11th and R streets.

Throughout yesterday the envoys spent an arduous day of work, visiting the White House, the State, War, and Agricultural Departments. They were under the guidance of Booker T. Washington.

Preparatory to introducing the several Liberian visitors, Dr. Washington made a short address.

"I am glad to be with you tonight and help welcome these estimable and lovable men from Africa," said the Alabama educator. "They are here in Washington on an official visit, not merely as envoys of their land, but as representatives of the entire Negro race. To a vast degree we are deeply interested in affairs affecting them, as they must necessarily be interested in our welfare and advancement.

"To a large degree their success is our success and their failure is our failure. If their country succeeds, so much in that degree does the race succeed. And if their country fails, so much in that degree does the race fail.

"They need the support they ask for, and should have it for the reasons mentioned. Their mission here is a noble one.

"It is a gratification to note and realize how well these men have been received here in Washington, the cordial welcome extended, the attentiveness with which their pleas have been listened to, and the interest manifested in their mission, which I trust will be realized to its fullest extent. These men have been to the White House, the State Department, the Agricultural Department, and other divisions of our government, and their welcome has been pleasing and cordial.

"Personally I have never met in the comparatively short time that I have been with them more lovable or more genuine men. Each of them has endeared himself to me by his zeal, his faith, his affection for and in his country, and his sincerity and genuineness. They have found a deep and lasting place in my affections."

Following Dr. Washington, the envoys, James J. Dossan, Vice-President of the Republic; G. W. Gibson, formerly President and for many years Secretary of State in Liberia; Charles B. Dunbar, a lawyer; C. M. Faulkner, a civil engineer, and C. R. Branch, secretary of the mission, were introduced and spoke upon their African home and its possibilities.

After the primary object of the envoys' visit to America was outlined, a territorial description was given of the country, the form of government, modeled after that of the United States, and a resumé of the resources. The lack of industrial development was dwelt upon also and the envoys endeavored to show the vast opportunities for the profitable investment of large amounts of capital.

The envoys pleaded for a closer bond of union between the colored people of America and the citizens of Liberia. This bond they asserted would create a deeper and kindlier feeling for Liberia in America than has existed for many years and would tend to revive the interest in the country formerly held by American people for the success of the Republic when American Negroes were first sent out to colonize the fertile strip of land on the West African coast.

With a stronger bond between the two countries, the envoys stated,

would come the revival of trade with the United States, which was greatly longed for by the citizens of the Republic, and the investment of American capital in the country. The Liberians stated that practically no industrial advancement had been made in the country because of the national poverty, and there were opportunities for profitable investment of small or large sums of money, in marketing the natural resources of the land, such as ivory, ginger, coffee, tropical fruits, mahogany, and the palm and bamboo products.

As indicating the need of industrial development, the envoys stated that none of the natural resources of the country could at present be profitably marketed further in the interior than from thirty-five to forty miles, because of the enormous cost of transportation. They stated the country needed railroads, steamboat transportation and industrial manufactories, all of which would mean immediate profits to the investor.

In speaking of the internal affairs of their land, the envoys asserted that though their government had not made any vast strides toward national improvement, the country and purposes of the founders of the Republic had not been a failure. All needed now was capital to drive them further on the path of advancement. They stated that one-fourth of the public revenue was devoted to education and the civilization of the aborigines, both meeting with pronounced success.

The envoys ended by making earnest pleas for more material interest in their country on the part of all Americans, concerted efforts that they might take the fullest advantage of internal business opportunities offered and divert the foreign trade of the country, controlled at present by the English, Germans, Dutch, and Portuguese.

They stated they turned to America, their mother country, for the material aid so much needed, for the paternal interest she has shown the country in the past, and for the interest they hoped would be aroused in the future, and, lastly, with the hope of gradually stamping out and curtailing the encroachments of European powers, which have been increasing steadily year after year.—*The Evening Star*.

THE AMERICAN LEGATION IN LIBERIA IN MOURNING.—Mrs. Clara Florida Bacchus Lyon, the late wife of Dr. Ernest Lyon, the Minister Resident and Consul General of the United States of America, has just passed away.

Mrs. Lyon died at the American Legation, Monrovia, on the 10th instant, at 1:15 P. M., after a brief illness of only four days. She was the first to be borne in the new city hearse which has just arrived. Her coffin was a magnificent one and beautifully trimmed. It was covered with the American flag, and wreaths of floral decorations, the tributes of loving friends.

The funeral services were held in the First Methodist Episcopal

Church at 2 o'clock Wednesday, the 11th instant. It was largely attended by high government officials, foreign representatives, and leading citizens who had learned to love Mrs. Lyon since her induction into the American legation here. Her queenly bearing and social magnetism had won for herself and Dr. Lyon the good will and love of the community, so that the grief was intense and genuine.

Bishop I. B. Scott, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, delivered the eulogy in language most sympathetic and appealing—paying the deceased a beautiful tribute of love and respect, which covered her entire life. He was followed by Dr. R. B. Richardson, president of Liberia College; Dr. J. H. Reed, president of the College of West Africa, and Rev. J. A. Simpson, pastor of the church, whose tributes to her life and character were most fitting and complimentary. The tribute of Dr. Richardson was all the more remarkable on account of the fact that he is himself a representative Liberian and could speak without bias in praise of the social, domestic, and religious virtues of the deceased.

Mrs. Lyon was married to Dr. Ernest Lyon, the Minister Resident and Consul General of the United States of America, June 18, 1903, at Wilmington, Delaware, U. S. A., and started for Liberia soon thereafter.

Her father and mother are Isaac and Rachel Bacchus of Wilmington, Delaware, U. S. A., who will, until better informed, look in vain for her home-coming in June, as she had a month ago informed them.

Mrs. Lyon attended the following institutions of learning from which she received her literary training which so eminently fitted her for her high state in life: Morgan College, Baltimore, Maryland; Howard University, Washington, D. C., and Dickerson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The latter is one of the oldest and most distinguished institutions in America. She was the second woman of color to attend it.

She possessed education and rare culture, and was the best type of American womanhood that has ever adorned the American legation at Monrovia in the recollection of its oldest inhabitant.

The deceased leaves upon the scene a devoted husband, two daughters-in-law, a son-in-law, and her own baby boy, too young to realize his great loss. These were all at her bedside when she died, vying with each other in administering to her comfort, and to keep back the "Reaper." Everything that they could do was done. In America she leaves father, mother, two sisters, and a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn her loss.

We weep with Dr. Lyon and his family over their sad loss, for he has lost a true and devoted wife, the children a loving mother, the United States Legation its star and charm, and the race one of its best types of female characters.

Then let us all humbly bow at the feet of our Heavenly Father, and ask for grace to bear this great sorrow, which comes from Him who doeth all things well.—*The African Agricultural World*, March, 1908.

DR. BLYDEN ON LIBERIA'S NEW POLICIES.—At a luncheon in England, which was attended by Attorney General C. D. B. King, among other things, Dr. Blyden said in an address:

"Liberians, looking with greater confidence and deeper interest in the word of the European exploiters of West Africa, soon felt a greater degree of safety in opening their doors and coming into closer relations with England, and have earnestly invoked the assistance of the British government, and, I must add, of the French Republic, in the development of the resources of the country. English supervisors of Liberian customs have been appointed, and since their appointment the revenue from custom has steadily increased. For 1907-8 it was £87,000, a rise of £10,000 over 1906-7 and £38,000 over 1905-6, before it was taken over by the British inspector, who is now in England on a brief furlough, and working in the interest of his department with the assistance of the Consul General of Liberia in London, who, during his quarter of a century's service to the Republic, has wrought financial marvels in its behalf. A steam yacht has been acquired for the young State, which, it is hoped, will considerably assist the revenue; the yacht is to be under the command of British officers. Additional British officials are being engaged to strengthen the custom staff in Liberia. A police frontier force is being organized at Monrovia, under Major R. M. Cadell, an experienced officer, which will secure order, prevent friction between Liberia and her neighbors, and promote commercial development, which, considering the vast untouched resources of the Republic, will be rapid and remunerative.—*Liberia and West Africa*, July 7, 1908.

THE PRESIDENT OF HARVARD SCORES THE LAW.—December 17.—President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard was the principal speaker at the opening meeting of the Civic Forum, held at Carnegie Hall last night. Before an audience which included a great many persons prominent in the world of letters, politics, art, and society, president Eliot defined "lawlessness" in the various shapes which it assumes in the United States.

"The impunity with which crime of violence is committed is a disgrace to the country," said he, "and demonstrates the urgent need of much more effective protective force.

"But a far worse form of lawlessness is the violation of laws by rich corporations. Many of these violations are not explicit, but implicit. Thus, in the commercial operation called promoting the promoter organizes a corporation, issues a large amount of stocks and

bonds which represent in real value only a small proportion of their nominal value, and then sells the confiding public these stocks and bonds by means of false promises.

"A peculiarly deliberate form of lawlessness is exhibited when corporations or large combinations of men for business purposes, foreseeing that they shall shortly wish to commit illegal acts, prepare beforehand protection against prosecution for illegitimate practices by means of legislation, apparently innocent, but really designed to intrench in their control of trust institutions speculative and immoral officials, or to prevent convictions for criminal violence not yet perpetrated, but to be perpetrated."

After touching upon the lawlessness of competition, bids on public works, lynching, and the night riders in Tennessee, he concluded by saying:

"Society at large must bear the chief responsibility for lawlessness. It neglects to provide the protective forces necessary to secure order and peace. It fails to educate the children in reverence and obedience and to inspire them with the love of liberty under law. It declines association with burglars and forgers, but not with dishonest promoters, corrupt officials and lawyers, who teach their clients how to evade laws."—*The Evening Star*.

THE LIBERIAN COMMISSION HERE.—Enthusiastically endorsed by Dr. Booker T. Washington, and accompanied by him on their tour of the departments at Washington, D. C., and introduced by him to the President and Secretary Taft, the Liberian delegation rejoices in the cordial and sympathetic reception it has received. The envoys are Vice-President J. J. Dossen, former President G. H. Gibson, and Charles B. Dunbar, of the Liberian bar.

The purpose of their mission is to urge the moral assistance of the United States government, and the exercise of its international influence in behalf of the Negro Republic against the foreign powers. England, France, and Germany, threaten by gradual encroachment to endanger the integrity of the Republic. Lured by the vast wealth of natural resources, these powers have at times possessed themselves of outlying strips, and are exploiting the territory thus gained for their benefit.

Another purpose of the envoys is to solicit the financial assistance of America, Liberia's mother country, to cultivate the fertile lands, to exploit the unlimited resources, and thus bring wealth and prosperity to their people. Lack of agricultural and industrial machinery, lack of capital to work with, has impeded the Liberians in the exploitation of the coffee, cotton, rubber, mahogany, and other industries, which, if properly financed, would undoubtedly prove a source of great prosperity to the race.

The envoys urged the establishment of a closer bond between the American and Liberian Negroes. Dr. Washington, in his speech of welcome, expressed himself on this point as follows:

"To a large degree their (the Liberians') success is our success, and their failure is our failure. If their country succeeds, so much in that degree does the race succeed. And if their country fails, so much in that degree does the race fail."

How exasperatingly is this country of Liberia handicapped. Fancy to have the knowledge that millions and millions of dollars' worth of marketable produce grows for the picking, yet being unable to market it for lack of the initial capital. Transportation facilities there are none to speak of. Skilled labor is scarce. The government has done good work smoothing the path to advancement. One quarter of the public revenue is being spent for education and the civilization of the aborigine. But skilled labor is needed and capital to push along the path already started towards further advancement of the people and prosperous business enterprise.

Vice-President Dossen in an interview discussing the condition of the Negro in Liberia as compared to the conditions of the American Negro, declared that the American had advantages a hundred-fold greater than his Liberian brother. And he is a man who knows what he is speaking of. The standard of life, the luxuries, the education, the standing in church, society, and politics, of the American Negro, caused them a pleasant surprise. To quote his words: "To the poor white foreigners, who come here from the monarchical governments of Europe, the elegance in which the black people live is a revelation, compared with what we have to contend with in poverty-stricken and undeveloped Liberia. You have everything to be thankful for, even if your status in some respects is not ideal."

Such words from a widely traveled man, who has had the opportunity to compare many situations, speak worlds. Let the American Negroes combine and aid these less fortunate brethren in West Africa to the best of their ability.—*Alexander's Magazine*.

RETURN OF THE ENVOYS.—Our envoys to the United States have returned home, and it appears they have brought news gladdening the hearts of their eager and anxiously waiting countrymen. It appears that nothing has been given out officially as yet to the people at large, but they seem to have returned with an air of victory. The probabilities are that the timely visit of these envoys to the United States of America has been the saving clause in the preservation of our common country for those for whom it was intended.

It was never intended by Washington, Monroe, Calhoun, and Clay, and the American sires, who furnished the money to buy the land which Liberia now occupies as a Republic, that the Negroes of Liberia

should ever lose it, and we believe the prayers of those early promoters of this scheme are doing us good even today, as well as the prayers of the sons of those sires.

Our envoys to the United States aroused afresh the interest of the people of that great country to the welfare of Liberia. The mission of the envoys was probably as great as the mission of any envoys for any country could be at any time, and our envoys did their work well, both politically and commercially, and the future will show forth its telling effect. These great men of ours, with their efficient secretaries, did all they could for the country, and they will ever be among the first in the hearts of their countrymen, and well known and respected by the administrators of affairs of the United States. Their visit to the United States has already caused commissioners to be sent out from the government of the United States to confer with the government of Liberia upon matters affecting our nation's welfare.

May God save the Republic of Liberia and her political sire—the Republic of the United States.

OUR MISSION LOT AND BUILDINGS.—The College of West Africa was erected about sixty years ago, and occupies the west part of our mission lot. It is built of brick, with a rock basement. The dimensions are 60 x 60, including the space for piazza. The building contains about eight rooms; the entire lower floor is used for school purposes, with a space to accommodate three teachers and about 120 pupils, but we have been compelled to crowd 200 pupils into this apartment with five teachers. To meet this emergency, two small rooms have been improvised upon the front and back piazzas. The second floor is used for teachers' apartments, dining-room, and kitchen, together with one small room occupied by the resident bishop while on the field. The remaining space on upper floor is used for girls' dormitory, into which about 16 or 20 girls can be crowded. On the northeast corner, second floor, is a small office built on the piazza for the president of the school.

The mission lot is about 160 x 120 feet, fronting on Ashmun street. As stated above, the college building and appurtenances occupy the west portion, covering a space about 100 x 120. The remainder of the lot to the east, about 60 x 120, is occupied by a small frame cottage in close proximity with our building, separated at a distance of about eight feet, with a zinc fence between the two buildings. This cottage is owned by Miss Mary A. Sharp. Formerly this lot was all one, but by some arrangement made during the incumbency of Dr. J. M. Reid as corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society, this east section of the mission lot was leased to Miss Sharp, through the consent of the local trustees here, and this cottage was erected upon the same. Here Miss Sharp has for several years operated an independent mission, having been sent out more than a quarter of a century

ago, under the auspices of one of the regular benevolent organizations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but subsequently withdrawing, and setting up the present independent mission.

The folly of such a concession by the Missionary Society, sanctioned by the local board of trustees here, is clearly demonstrated in the past and present history of this independent mission, which was at that time established upon the property of the Society, especially in such close proximity with our own mission, in which she had formerly worked. In the first place, it has handicapped the growth and usefulness of our mission by usurping the space of our already too crowded condition. Secondly, it has been the means of raising altar against altar, growing out of the natural result of such a procedure, and the incompatibility of the workers in two dissimilar institutions erected side by side upon the same plot of ground in hand-to-hand touch. It has fostered not a spirit of honest rivalry upon the broad basis of church pride, but rather the narrow spirit of unjust criticisms and innuendoes, finding expression even in the inmates of the unfortunately located missions. Under existing conditions it becomes a most serious task to rightly foster the principles for which our Methodism establishes her missions in foreign fields. We simply wait upon God and time to adjust our present difficulties.

As to our present location and building, several facts need to be taken into consideration. First, we are poorly located to do the most efficient work. Our space is too limited, both in grounds and buildings. The grounds are divided as described above, and even if we had possession of the entire space it would be inadequate to the task of developing here an educational plant commensurate with the present demands of our work. Our present building has served its day as a small mission house, and needs repairs at a cost of \$2,000 or more, or an enlargement in an annex costing at the minimum \$7,000. Here we sit, halting between two opinions, whether to build here permanently or to vacate the spot, leaving this present building as a central recruiting station of workers coming and going, and as a central headquarters for the distribution of literature from our book concern, a thing so essential at this time on account of the scarcity of literature in this primitive land.

Our crying demand here is for industrial outlet. We cannot satisfy that demand in the present quarters. Our printing plant is the only industry, and this is not fulfilling the design for which it was established in connection with the college. A few boys find employment in this department, whereas, if our space of 100 x 120 feet could be counted in acres, the situation would be materially changed for a larger growth of our institution. Our printing office building is located about two squares from the college building, at a diagonal point southeast, upon a narrow strip of land about 40 x 60 feet, too inconveniently located for proper discipline and husbanding our material resources under the unity of aim and purpose in the

work of our mission. The building just about covers the lot upon which it is erected.

There must be changes in our present method of work at this place if we are to reach the proper adjustment of this mission to the demands of the conditions under which we labor. These cannot be made by mere theorizing; something tangible must be done in the matter of proper appropriations if the church hopes for any permanent results of our efforts. It is to be hoped that the African Diamond Jubilee, in 1909, will be the means of rightly fitting up our plant, either upon this spot or somewhere else, in the wisdom of the bishop. We labor from year to year with the hope that something more adapted to our needs will be done by the church. We need a place of better facilities and equipment to do the work, as well as men and women in harmony with our polity, in order to have success.—*Liberia and West Africa.*

THE EDUCATIONAL PROBLEM OF THE NEGRO.—Referring to the editorial in our last issue upon backward races, it may be well to note at this time the educational problem of the black race in connection with western civilization as it affects the races of the world in the present century. There are certain well defined epochs in human history, and each has its place in the economy of things for the advancement of mankind. This cannot be overlooked in our attempt to adjust the co-operative movements of the world in any particular century. The trend of events ushers us into the golden age of the world, but this must come on apace through successive stages of social and economic evolution.

We are wont to think and sometimes boast of the civilization of ancient Egypt as representing a type which demonstrated the past achievements of the Hamitic race variety. While there may be some historical truth in this phase of the civilization and refinement of the darker races, it counts for but very little in the solution of our present problems, as these must be met in our struggles among the contending race types of the present century. In the first place, it must be noted that we now live in the greatest industrial era of the world, a time when the whole earth feels the thrill of commercialism, and we stand in the midst of our great world market. Into this era is the Negro type brought, thus causing the race in all lands to face a most serious situation in every phase of its development.

Considering this fact, let us look at the facts as they present themselves. The black races are ushered suddenly into this worldwide system of industrialism, brought about by the natural sequences of human events, and must adapt themselves to the demands of the age. In this, note the dilemma: First the race comes to this era without the proper intellectual training, which brings about what we know as the educational problem. This becomes the more difficult because

of the fact of living under a universal reign of industrial and economic evolution. The age of wealth and commercial activity crowds out the age of highest intellectual grasp; this puts the weaker race at a tremendous disadvantage, for it is compelled under the circumstances to struggle for intellectual culture and refinement as exemplified in the higher education, in schools of liberal arts, and in the meantime adjust itself to the industrial demands of the century. Hence the worldwide necessity of establishing such institutions as will meet this double standard which the present century exacts of the backward races.

Here is the crux of the educational problem confronting particularly the American Negro, in sharp competition with the great Anglo-Saxon race, which has had centuries of culture and which now pushes industrial progress around the world. This double standard must be wisely met in order that the Negro may develop that type of manhood capable of fulfilling the conditions of ripe scholarship as well as meeting the demands of that technical education in the trades which characterize the age of economic development. Dr. Booker T. Washington in this particular becomes at once the seer of our educational problem, and in the establishment of an industrial system, strongly buttressed with collegiate course in the liberal arts and technical sciences, he strikes the keynote of the twentieth century education and catches the intellectual ear of the world, as it listens to the harmonious sounds of intellectual and industrial growth, the double standard for the black race.

Africa, like the rest of the world, is under a reign of commercialism, and the problem of education for her teeming millions becomes more complex as the years go by. The conditions here are quite dissimilar to those which now obtain in other sections of the globe. Aside from planting and fostering an educational system among a primitive people, there arises the problem of Christian Mission and the inculcation of dogmas, creeds, and tenets, with denominational persuasions, all of which cause the situation to become more complex. The nations of Europe now dominate Africa under a system of industrial development, and every force is apparently subservient to this one ideal. The educational problem, therefore, becomes threefold—*Industrial, Religious, Intellectual*. The present task is to lay the foundation of African civilization, and by the very force of circumstances and natural sequences the industrial and intellectual must precede the religious or missionary operation.

We do not propose in this arrangement to minify the operation of the Christian church in her missionary enterprises, but from actual contact with the conditions as now obtain, it is indeed an axiomatic truth that there must be an industrial redemption upon this continent, followed by an intellectual awakening, before there can be any marked success in missionary operations. We deal here with primi-

tive conditions, and things must be taken in reasonable order if the darker races are to be uplifted. To reverse the order is to fail completely in our zeal for racial redemption. These three cannot be taken in an omnibus way; one must follow the other. To jump over the industrial and intellectual and attempt to teach religion is futile. It becomes only a vague method of developing an abnormal religious condition, thus drifting out of paganism into religious fanaticism, which is worse than heathen fetichism. Develop the industries, train the intellect, save the soul, is the watchword of the twentieth century for the civilization of the backward races of the world.—*Liberia and West Africa.*

THE ADVANCE AND MODERN PHASE OF EDUCATION.—In the history of wealth production there are five recognized stages: The hunting and fishing stage, in which wealth is produced by mere labor of occupation, little capital is used, and assumes the form of a few simple tools and weapons; the pastoral stage, when men learn to raise and domesticate animals and to depend upon their herds for food and clothing, wealth here consists in cattle; the agricultural stage, in which men raise plants as well as animals, more capital is needed and the co-operation of nature is invited to a greater extent; the manufacturing and commercial stage, in which greater attention is paid to the manufacturing into highly-finished products the raw materials secured by hunting, fishing, pastoral, agricultural, and mining industries; finally, the industrial stage, in which all the diverse and varied industries of today are operated for the comfort and convenience of mankind. It will be observed that each succeeding stage in wealth production is an improvement over the preceding one, and that the final stage is a combination of the first four, with the additional advantages which modern science and invention have been able to devise. We are living in the industrial age.

In the history of education a similar gradient advance may be outlined, and, further, it may be shown that wealth and knowledge are interdependent. There was a period when it may be said that no knowledge existed; again, when wisdom was congested in the brains of a few individuals; then the period of priestly domination, when ecclesiastics, supported by the tithes from the common people, took advantage of the leisure thus afforded to acquire much enlightenment; there followed the landed aristocracy, whose wealth enabled them to provide for their children a liberal education; and, finally, the period of common education, when nations and communities became opulent enough to provide education for all. Education has assumed three phases in its history, viz., ecclesiastical, in which stress was laid upon religious training; literary, in which everything

was subsidiary to ancient languages and literature and speculative philosophy; technical and scientific, in which importance is given to engineering and mechanics. We are living in the age of common education and when preference is given to technical and scientific training.

Climate, food, and soil are the greatest factors in the development of civilization, and of all the results produced among a people by these three agents the accumulation of wealth is the earliest, and in many respects the most important; for, although the progress of knowledge eventually accelerates the increase of wealth, it is nevertheless certain that, in the first formation of society, the wealth must accumulate before the knowledge can begin. As long as man is engaged in acquiring the bare necessities for his own subsistence there will neither be time nor inclination, nor even taste, for higher pursuits; no science nor art can possibly be formed. Wealth must first be created before leisure can be obtained from the arduous work in gaining a livelihood. Until there is wealth there can be no leisure, and without leisure there can be no progress in knowledge. It is only when a community or nation becomes possessed of some wealth that an intellectual class can possibly be produced. Thus it may readily be seen that knowledge is dependent upon wealth. The height of Grecian learning was reached in the age of Pericles, when Greece was in her happiest days of prosperity and peace. England produced her best gems of literature during the Renaissance, which marked the era of manufacturing and commercial awakening of Great Britain.

Thus in proportion as wealth has increased education has grown and spread. In all ages, however, education has adapted itself to the demands of the time. This age demands educated men—not learned men. And here it might be well to elaborate a little, as there is some confusion as to what constitutes an *educated* man, and in what respect he differs from a *learned* man. Dr. Minot Judson Savage rightly pictures an educated man in this language: "Education is such a development of our faculties and powers as enables us to be masters wherever we are placed—masters of ourselves, masters of our condition. And we need, incidentally, to know enough to know *where* we are and *what we are there for*." A learned man, on the other hand, is one who devotes his life to the great literatures and languages of the world, who discovers the laws of the universe, the source of man, his tendency and mission upon earth, and reveals the great principles and truths by which mankind is guided. The aim of education today is to adjust itself to the demands of this, the industrial age. The education of the seventeenth or eighteenth century would be practically useless for the age of industrialism and commercialism. The greatest and most significant thing of all for

every young man—and every young woman as well—in this twentieth century, is that his training should be such that, drop him wherever you will in the world, he will be able to make a decent living by his honest efforts. Every man should know a trade or profession, every woman should be deft enough with her fingers in some art to extract a livelihood from the world, even though the necessity may never arise for the employment of such attainments. The Jewish Rabbis formerly held that he who did not teach his son a trade was as bad as if he had taught him to steal. This precept has practical application today. The time has arrived when a man without training how to do things properly will be cast upon the world a joyless pestilence. The watchword of today is “work.” There was a time when it was a disgrace to work, but now it is a disgrace to be idle. Every man ought to thank God at the beginning of each new day for the privilege of doing some work for the benefit of humanity.

Education of this age is unmistakably practical. The branches of physical science, engineering, agriculture, and manual training are receiving the greatest amount of attention in all countries. President Schurman, of Cornell University, says “the spirit of the age is not favorable to the nation of liberal culture. Our youth frequent the gainful occupations. Our colleges of art decline, while scientific and technical schools are overcrowded.” To meet the demand of the age colleges are rapidly adding technical departments to their regular colleges of art. The graduating lists now contain nearly as many B. S.’s as B. A.’s, and the former number is increasing every year. The secondary schools of nearly all the cities of America have modified their curricula so as to include manual training, while in many instances separate schools for such training have been established. Where colleges have technical departments, the first two years of the college course are devoted to what is called “liberal education,” in which studies are usually prescribed. This action is taken for the reason that the faculties believe there are many subjects which every person in common ought to know. The last two years of the course are devoted to “specializing,” when a student is allowed to select those studies or that profession or science which best suits his inclination. The old system of education in which a student was drilled in the so-called dead languages, and waded through the box of ancient sages, when no man was considered educated who could not write a thesis in Greek or Latin, have served its purpose, and even outgrown it. The industrial age calls for a workable education, dynamic training, which can add more comfort and blessings to humanity.

That education is useful today, so far as the average man is concerned, which advances the world economically, commercially, industrially, and socially. There are men of wealth and leisure who will

continue to devote their lives to learning pure and simple, thereby augmenting the list of learned men. But the tendency of the teaching profession is to train men and women to conquer the forces of nature, to harness the waves of air and ether, and make them do man's bidding. The world wants men to wrest from the bosom of the earth the elements God has deposited there for their convenience, to extract chemicals from the soil in the form of fruits, vegetables, and cereals for the maintenance and perpetuity of the human family. The more primitive the country the closer should men stick to the soil, for all wealth is in the soil. That education is best suited to the masses of an infant country that will make men look to the soil for a living, that will teach them to know they have all the necessities of life at the ends of their fingers. Today we can clearly hear the latest word in education, and that word is being thundered from our great centers of thought, it is being shouted by great hosts of human beings who see that old-time systems of education no longer answer the purpose of the twentieth century. Out of the world of letters, from the busy fields of industrial activity, from the sanctums of religion, the palaces of the wealthy and the wretched hovels of the poor goes up to our seats of learning this timely and pregnant cry: Send us men and women who are not only saturated with a knowledge of the past and present, but whose minds and hands have been trained to do the world's manual work.—*By Prof. Walter F. Walker, in Liberia and West Africa.*

THE WORK OF THE SMALL COLLEGE AND ITS FUTURE, AS COMPARED WITH THE WORK AND FUTURE OF THE STATE SCHOOL.—Before making any comparison, it should be mentioned that there are three classes of State educational institutions.

First. The strictly normal school.

Second. The great university, with its professional and technical training. The small college, strictly speaking, offers no competition with these two institutions.

The other State institution is the university college, and it is with this institution that the small college competes, for both are supposed to have the same aim.

Comparing these two institutions, there are two questions to be answered:

First. Is it better to offer the distinctively college course in small groups or in large ones? We take the position that the small one is the better. It is better because it brings the student into closer association with his teacher. Garfield's definition of a college was Mark Hopkins on one end of a log and the student on the other. That is a good definition if the log is short enough for the student to get real

close to Mr. Hopkins, to catch the spirit of his magnificent personality, to be polished with his culture and thrilled with his optimism. What we want is the short log—close association between teacher and student. The personal touch with great masters counts for more in developing the student than the influence of vast buildings and great multitudes of other students who are merely his equals.

The small college is better because of the absence of marked lines of cleavage in the social life of the school. It is here that the family life may be more nearly reproduced. Wholesome restraints and associations that have been around him in the home from which he comes may be still continued in the life of the student.

The small church college is better able to maintain a strict discipline in the student's conduct. A gentleman who sent his son to a small church college was in constant distress because of the reports that his son was continually running counter to the regulations of the school. The next year the son insisted, and the father consented, that he should attend a State university school. Never again did any complaint come to him concerning his son. The incident is most significant, and a striking compliment to the small church college. The father has learned his lesson well.

Second. What of the future of these two classes of institutions? The institution that can do the work best will survive and prosper in the future, and the State university college will gradually merge into strictly university work.

This, however, does not solve the problem of the religious life of the State school. The church must help to solve it by establishing a church on or near the campus of every great university. If the spirit of religion is not in the atmosphere of the State university, perhaps the church is to blame.—*By Walter D. Agnew, D. D., in Liberia and West Africa.*

THE EDUCATION DEMANDED BY THE TIMES.—Education is in processes of making. New pedagogical theories arise with the changing of the moons. The old is ever under amendment of the new. Both the matter and the manner of the education of our fathers is largely out of date. Experiments are everywhere being tried. The whole subject of education is yet in the haze.

There are, however, some simple conditions which education must meet to satisfy the demands of the times:

1. Education must be thorough. The age is one of exacting demands of men. It will not accept slovenly thinking or doing. It wants men of strength who can meet its problems and stand its strain. Never was competition so strenuous, and never were human undertakings more gigantic.

Only a man whose powers have been exceptionally developed can qualify for leadership in such a time as this. To secure the right kind of men we must have the right kind of schools, which means that they must be well equipped and well endowed.

2. Education must be practical. The age asks results. Art for art's sake does not suit, but art for humanity's sake has the right ring. Even philosophy is coming to base its theories not on speculation, but the conception of values. Does it work, that is pragmatism in a nutshell. It is the spirit of the age. Culture for æsthetic purposes has little meaning for the times. The scholar must help the world. His learning must be set to use. Society must find, in his investigations and thinking, the basis of greater progress. The school must be so organized that it will help on.

3. Education must be progressive. It must bring forth the new. The scholar must be an investigator. The school must constantly be lifting civilization a notch higher. It must coax from nature more and more of her secrets, get constantly greater control of its mighty powers, and utilize in larger measure its vast resources. It must also develop the best in our social life by disclosing the obligations and relations which exist among men. In short, it must be the main reliance of human progress.

4. The age wants an education that is fundamentally religious. Society cannot get on without the fear of God before its eye. Ethics is vapid without an authority which gives imperativeness to its precepts. Culture may be remedial, but it is not redemptive. The world needs men whose conscience is as sensitive as a film to light. The wrecks along the shore lines of history have resulted from moral causes. When a nation forgets God it perishes. We cannot too strongly urge religious obligations and too frequently appeal to religious motive when training the future leaders of human society. Our colleges must be surcharged with spiritual energy. You cannot put godliness in the nation unless you first put it in the schools. The church has rendered the world imperishable service in founding institutions of learning where religious ideals and impulses have been daily exalted in the eyes of the youth.—*By Rev. Samuel Plantz, President of Lawrence University, in Liberia and West Africa.*